Ignace District Fisheries Management Plan

1987 - 2000

Draft

Ontario
Ministry of Natural Resources

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Ignace District Office
P.O. Box 448 Hwy 599
Ignace, Ontario P0T 1T0
Telephone (807) 934-2233

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Preface

This draft fisheries management plan was prepared under the general context of the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines (M.N.R., 1983) and indicates the long term management direction (1987-2000) for all fisheries within the Ignace administrative district.

The purpose of this draft management plan is to state fisheries management objectives and detail preferred specific strategies and tactics that will be undertaken within the planning period. To that end, the fisheries management plan is comprised of resource information, management strategies and the first five year implementation schedule. The implementation schedule outlines the operational tactics designed to implement the strategies to overcome identified problems and ultimately to achieve management objectives.

The preparation of this draft plan involved summarizing detailed fisheries background information into a Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document which was subsequently presented to the public for their input and comments. Responses from the public were summarized and analysed and taken into consideration in the preparation of this document.

This draft fisheries management plan will be refined, following public input, into a final fisheries management plan designed to provide guidance to local fisheries managers as well as indicate future management direction to the public.

The public is invited to participate in this planning process and the Ministry of Natural Resources would be pleased to receive comments on this document. Written comments will be received until October 16, 1987 and may be directed to:

District Manager
Ministry of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 448,
IGNACE, Ontario.
P0T1T0

Paul Wyatt

DISTRICT MANAGER

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this planning exercise is to provide direction for fisheries management efforts within the Ignace District to the year 2000. Both long term management direction and a five year implementation schedule, showing short term management actions are identified.

1.2 PLANNING PROCESS

This draft fisheries management plan was developed within the overall resource planning and management system of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (Figure 1). Broad program direction for the optimization of resource use to achieve established objectives is provided in the Northwestern Ontario Strategic Land Use Plan. The Ignace District Land Use Guidelines (DLUG), while adhering to this policy direction, identify appropriate land and water areas within the district where Ministry programs will be carried out and establishes program objectives and targets. Individual resource management plans determine how particular resources will be managed to achieve the program objectives and targets.

The Draft Ignace District Fisheries Management Plan, being one of these resource management plans, is consistent with the policies and intent stated in the overall guiding documents. Management strategies which indicate how the Ministry intends to manage the fishery resource are described. The implementation of specific management tactics, inherent to the achievement of these strategies, is described in a management schedule for five year operating periods. Annual work plans will be developed from the priorities established in the implementation schedule and will describe the actual fisheries management operations to be conducted in a particular year.

1.3 POLICY AND TECHNICAL DIRECTION

This management plan has been prepared according to Ministry policy. Specific policy direction was provided through the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines. In addition, the operational components of this plan will, where appropriate, conform to the policy and legislative requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act (R.S.O. 1975).

Technical direction was provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources Planning Manual for District Fisheries Management Plans. All management strategies and tactics satisfy the principles stated in the Strategic Plan for Ontario Fisheries (SPOF) and are consistent with accepted fisheries management principles and practices.

Other documents affect fisheries management direction and have been referred to in the preparation of this plan. These include the timber management plans and specific lake recreation management studies. An Ignace District Enforcement Plan addressing enforcement concerns affecting the fisheries resources is in the process of being developed.

This management plan only highlights some of the background studies and analyses undertaken as part of the fisheries management planning process. Documents prepared in the development of this management plan are: Terms of Reference Fisheries Management Planning-Ignace District, Resource Inventory and Analysis Detailed Background Information, Summary of Background Information and Optional Management Strategies, which was presented to the public at an open house, and Analysis of Public Input. All of these documents are available for public review at the Ignace District Office.

Integration of the fisheries management plan with other district programs was achieved through a planning team consisting of representatives from timber management, lands management, fish and wildlife management, fire management and the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. The planning team was responsible for the review and evaluation of the summary document and draft management plan to ensure that fisheries management recommendations were consistent with the direction of other programs.

1.4 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

An open house which presented a summary of background information and introduced optional management strategies to the public for their review and comment has been conducted. In addition, if requested, meetings were held with representatives of interest groups to deal with specific problems and issues. Open houses and meetings with interest groups and other

Figure 1

District Fisheries Management Planning And The Ministry of Natural Resources Planning System.

STRATEGIC/POLICY PLANNING
(GOALS & OBJECTIVES/STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR ONTARIO FISHERIES-SPOF)
NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO STRATEGIC LAND USE PLAN
IGNACE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES
IGNACE DISTRICT FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN
OTHER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS
ANNUAL WORK PLAN

organizations will also be held to allow the public to review and comment on the draft fisheries management plan.

All public comments from the summary document open house were considered in the development of the draft plan. Public comments were categorized by section of the summary document to which they pertained. Within each section comments pertaining to similar topics were collated. Comments were then evaluated in terms of their economic feasibility, pertinence to the subject, legal acceptability, social acceptability, consistency with fisheries management principles and policies, complexity, environmental impacts and administrative requirements. Public comments from the draft management plan consultation will be considered in a similar manner in the development of a final fisheries management plan. A summary classifying public comments on the Summary of Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document, grouped by affiliation and subject, is presented in appendix 1.

A number of changes to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines may occur as a result of the fisheries management planning process. These proposed changes are itemized in Appendix 2 and the public is encouraged to submit their comments on the proposed changes. Comments received will be taken into consideration in any modifications to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines.

2.0 District Fisheries Perspective

2.1 FISHERIES RESOURCES

The Ignace District is one of six administrative districts in the Northwestern Administrative Region of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (Figure 2).

The district encompasses a total of 11,520 square kilometers and contains a total of 3,700 lakes with a total surface area of 204,800 hectares. Coldwater lakes comprise approximately 40% of the total lake surface area. Sturgeon Lake is both the largest waterbody and largest coldwater lake in the district comprising 10% of the total lake surface area. Warmwater lakes comprise approximately 60% of the total lake surface area. In addition there are 44 major rivers[1], with a total area of over 3,700 hectares, located in the district.

For the purpose of fisheries management, lakes which straddle the Ignace District boundary have been assigned to either the Ignace District or the neighboring district. A lake was assigned to the district which contained the majority of the lake area or if access to the lake was more readily available through that district. Appendix 3 lists all lakes straddling administrative boundaries and gives the jurisdiction responsible for its management.

The major fish species inhabiting lakes and rivers in the district are walleye, northern pike, lake whitefish, yellow perch, lake trout and smallmouth bass.

The total allowable yield (maximum harvest allowed over a long period of time) of all fish species from all waterbodies within the district is 484,010 kg/yr (Table 1). Sturgeon Lake is estimated to produce 47,750 kilograms of fish annually or 10% of the total district allowable yield. Approximately 361,230 kg. of the total allowable yield are sportfish species (walleye, northern pike, lake trout, smallmouth bass, and brook trout).

2.2 CURRENT AND PROJECTED RESOURCE USE

Based on the 1980 Provincial Angler Survey, it was estimated that 22,500 anglers fished in the Ignace District for a total of 170,000 angler-days. Projections to the year 2000 are that participation will increase to approximately 198,000 angler-days.

It was estimated that anglers harvested 437,240 kilograms of sportfish based on Ignace District creel survey data and the 1980 Provincial Angler Survey. The demand for sportfish will be 514,535 kilograms by the year 2000, using the average daily catch of 2.6 kilograms per angler, due to expected increases in angler numbers.

The current and projected angler-days and sportfish harvests may be less than those indicated. Current estimates indicate Ontario residents account for approximately 35% of the angler-days and 29% of the sportfish harvest. Projections to the year 2000 are that the present resident angling pressure will not increase and that non-resident participation will increase by approximately 25%. These figures may have been influenced by a crownland recreation program implemented in 1984. The impact of this program on the number of non-resident anglers and their subsequent sportfish harvest has been evaluated and indicates a slight decrease over the short term.

Commercial food fish licences are currently held on 9 lakes in the district. Only one licence is issued per lake. Present harvest is approximately 13,000 kg. of lake whitefish, 160 kg. of northern pike, 354 kg. of walleye and 585 kg. of lake trout. Present quotas by species for the nine lakes are: lake whitefish-41,616 kg., northern pike-1,438 kg., walleye-1,089 kg., and lake trout-719 kg. Since entry to the commercial fishery will be limited it is expected that projected harvests will not exceed the existing quotas.

Current use and projected use for the major fish species to the year 2000 is outlined in Table 1.

There are currently 13 commercial baitfish licences within the Ignace District. Current harvest is approximately 92,800 dozen baitfish. Since the number of angler-days to the year 2000 is expected to increase, it is assumed that the demand and therefore harvest will also increase to approximately 108,600 dozen baitfish.

[1]Major rivers are those which show as double lines on a map of 1:50,000 scale.

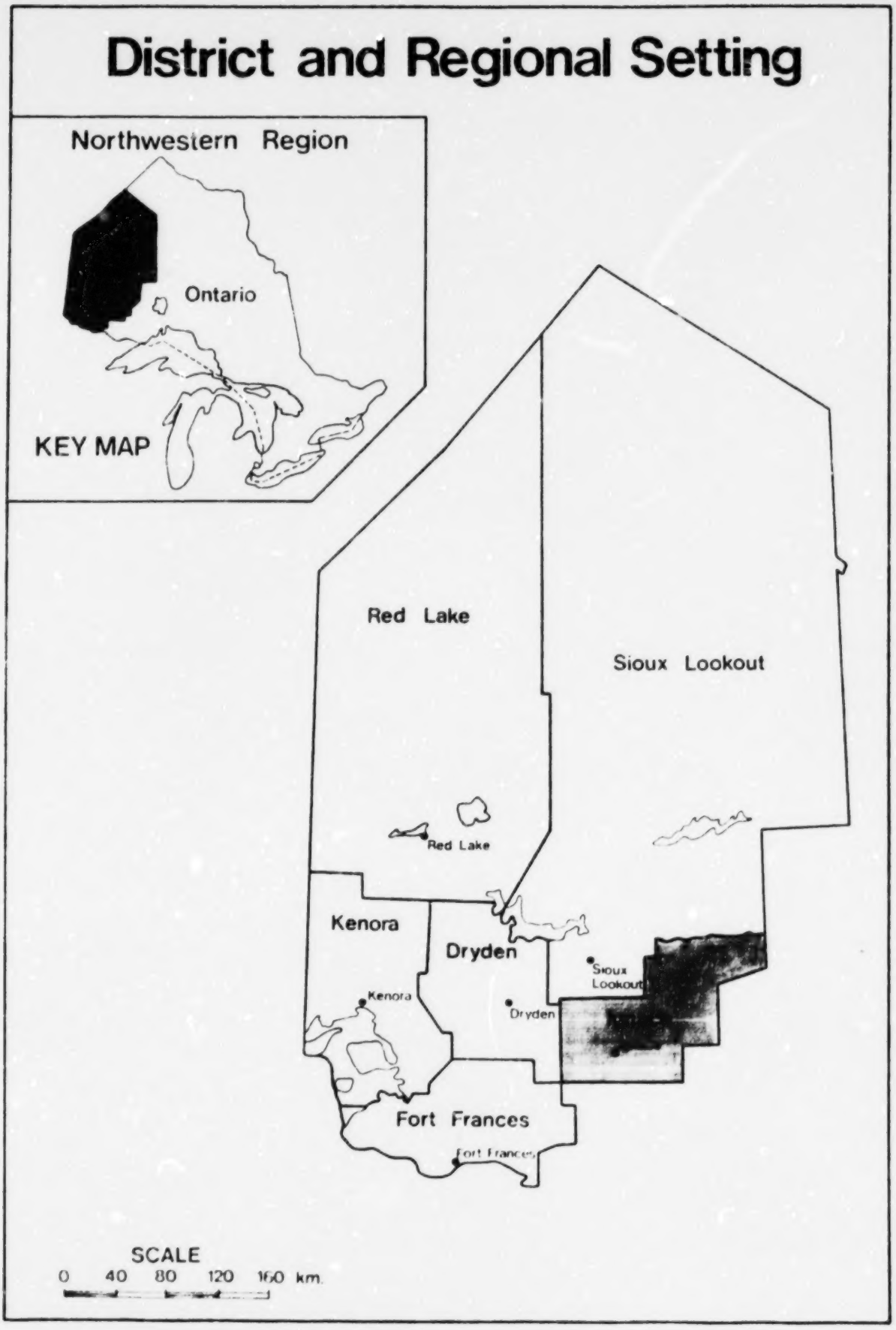
District and Regional Setting
Northwestern Region
Ontario
KEY MAP
Red Lake
Sioux Lookout
Red Lake
Kenora
Dryden
Sioux Lookout
Kenora
Dryden
Fort Frances
Fort Frances
SCALE
0 40 80 120 160 km.

FIGURE 2

TABLE 1: ESTIMATED ALLOWABLE YIELD AND CURRENT AND PROJECTED USE BY SPECIES IGNACE DISTRICT

LAKE	SPECIES	ESTIMATED ALLOWABLE YIELD (KG/YR)	CURRENT USE (KG/YR)	PROJECTED* USE TO THE YEAR 2000 (KG/YR)
STURGEON	WALLEYE	12840	440	650
	N. PIKE	10030	340	780
	LAKE TROUT	10030	1960	2450
	WHITEFISH	9630	7520	16330
	Y. PERCH	5220		
	SUBTOTAL	47750	10260	20210
DISTRICT	WALLEYE	153360	260780	300490
WATERS	N. PIKE	133900	142410	176430
(EXCLUDING)	LAKE TROUT	30080	33010	36970
STURGEON	WHITEFISH	63560	11230	25290
LAKE	SM. BASS	10010		
	Y. PERCH	44370		
	BROOK TROUT	980		
	SUBTOTAL	436260	447430	539180
TOTAL	WALLEYE	166200	261220	301140
DISTRICT	N. PIKE	143930	142750	177210
WATERS	LAKE TROUT	40110	34970	39420
	WHITEFISH	73190	18750	41620
	Y. PERCH	49590		
	SM. BASS	10010		
	BROOK TROUT	980		
	TOTALS	484010	457690	559390

*Projected use indicates the extent of harvesting by species that will occur under current management practices.

Current use of the fisheries resources by all users contributes significantly to the economy of the local area through direct benefits such as: annual gross revenue for the 42 licenced tourist establishments of $3,234,000, sale of bait by the 13 licenced bait harvesters of $120,000, and sale of commercial fish from the 9 licenced lakes of $17,000. The economic benefits to the area would likely be in the multi-million dollar range, taking into consideration spin off benefits, such as the purchase of miscellaneous supplies and services by all users and the creation of full time and part time employment opportunities. Economics also does not take into consideration the social benefits of a quality fisheries resource. In many instances, particularly to some resident anglers, bait fishermen or commercial fishermen, the opportunity to pursue their sport or vocation may be deemed to be of greater value than the actual economic return generated.

2.3 NON-FISHERIES DATA

It is necessary to take into consideration other (non-fisheries) information when formulating a fisheries management plan.

The majority of the activity in the Ignace District is natural resource based. These activities centre around the logging, mining and tourism industries. Objectives for forestry, mining and tourism are identified in the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines. These objectives and resource management plans associated with them will have some influence on fisheries management.

Figure 3 shows the locations of present and proposed roads, existing tourism facilities (main base and outpost) and mining activity in the district. All of these factors combine to influence such things as access to waterbodies, distribution of users or can impact on fisheries by altering water quality or fish habitat thereby reducing potential fish yields.

2.4 OVERVIEW

The district identified problems and issues in the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document. As a result of the public consultation on this document it was apparent that some of the problems and issues identified were not of concern and subsequently will not be specifically addressed in this document.

The basic problems and issues may be summarized under four general categories:

1) Quality Fishing Opportunities

Quality fishing or quality fishing opportunities may have a wide interpretation depending on the individual. Some examples may be: the opportunity to catch a variety of fish species, the chance of taking a trophy size fish, the choice of angling in a remote setting, the opportunity to catch a particular species of fish or simply the possibility of catching enough fish for a meal. The Ignace District fisheries provides these and other opportunities as well as many combinations of these opportunities. The challenge to managers and the users of the resource will be how to reduce the kill of fish, in view of the projected demand, in order to maintain or enhance these quality angling opportunities and taking into consideration the overall economic and social benefits derived from the resource.

New development or expansion of tourism opportunities that have been identified in this draft fisheries management plan have been based solely on the available fisheries resource. A tourism framework which considers the best possible economic return for the use of the resource in the development or expansion of these tourism opportunities must be developed.

This plan has made no attempt to identify any potential additional tourism opportunities which are not based on the consumptive use of the fisheries resource. Where not otherwise mentioned tourism development will be governed by the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines.

A primary development area (figure 4) has been established for the use of crown land as a development tool. This will involve an intense review of the area to determine the optimum economic benefit which may be obtained by the local community and the province from the use of crown land. Various development proposals and resources will be looked at in the area. The fisheries resource in relation to any development proposals will be addressed in terms of providing opportunities.

Harvesting above the allowable fish yield of a waterbody over the long term (over

IGNACE DISTRICT

Miles 10 0 10

Kilometres 10 0 10 20

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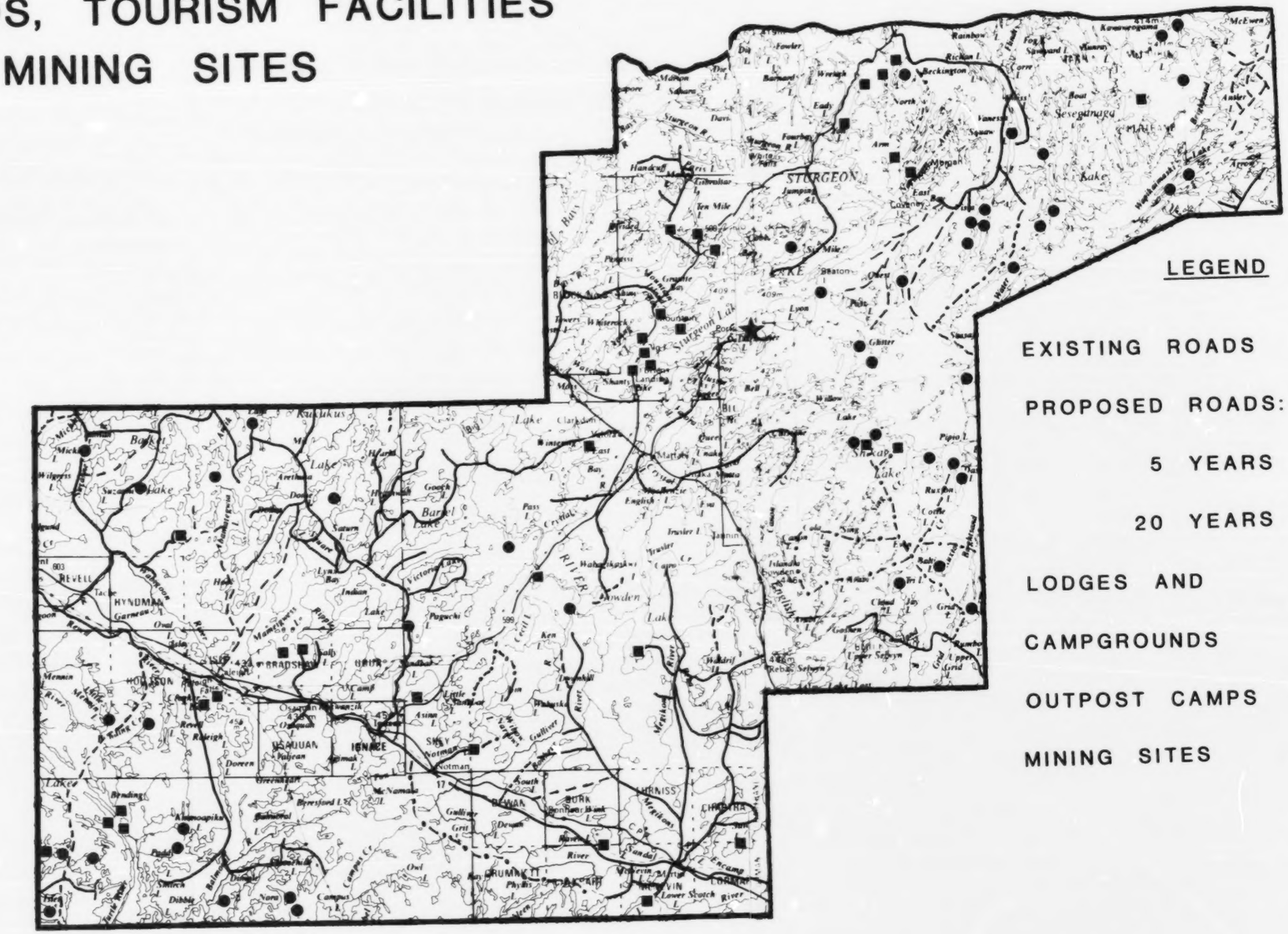
LEGEND

ROADS, TOURISM FACILITIES AND MINING SITES



LEGEND

EXISTING ROADS ———

PROPOSED ROADS:

5 YEARS – – – – –

20 YEARS —·—·—·—

LODGES AND CAMPGROUNDS ■

OUTPOST CAMPS ●

MINING SITES ★

FIGURE 3

IGNACE DISTRICT

Miles 10 0 10

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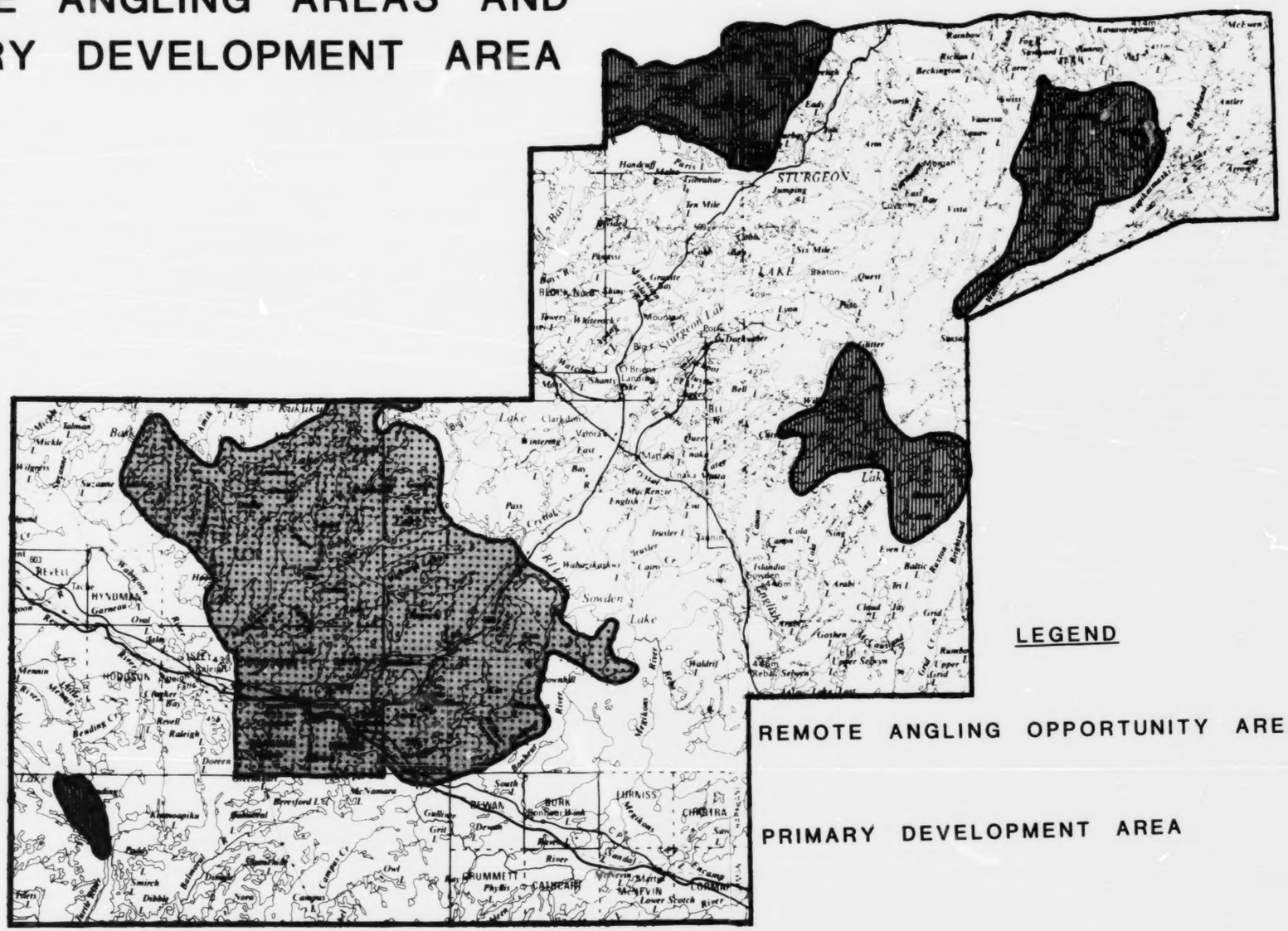
LEGEND

REMOTE ANGLING AREAS AND PRIMARY DEVELOPMENT AREA



LEGEND

REMOTE ANGLING OPPORTUNITY AREAS

PRIMARY DEVELOPMENT AREA

FIGURE 4

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exploitation) results in a degraded fish community. The benefits, such as quality fishing and fishing opportunities, obtained from a degraded fish community are subsequently lower than the benefits derived from a healthy one. Illegal harvests can accentuate an identified over exploitation situation but are difficult to measure. For this reason it is seldom taken into consideration when harvest figures for a waterbody are determined.

The problem of over harvest has been identified as occurring on a district wide basis but not for all sportfish species in all lakes. Current data indicates that harvest is more extensive in fisheries management zones 21, 22 and 23 (southern half of district). The problem is most acute for walleye (Table 1). Lake trout have been identified as being over harvested to a certain degree in district waters excluding Sturgeon Lake. This is of concern to managers due to the fragile, sensitive characteristics of the species. Northern pike have been identified as potentially being over harvested. They are not as sensitive as lake trout but the opportunity for a quality or trophy experience should be maintained.

Over harvest has been identified as a specific problem for Indian Lake and Sowden Lake, primarily for walleye, and Victoria Lake and Little Raleigh Lake for lake trout.

ii) Environmental Quality

The degradation of fisheries habitat has an obvious impact on the fisheries resources and may ultimately result in the loss of fish stocks and fishing opportunities. The presence of contaminants may render fish flesh unsuitable for human consumption.

Habitat loss or degradation can arise from a number of sources. The most common activities in this district which may have adverse impacts on both water quality and fisheries habitat include timber extraction, aggregate extraction, mining activities and cottage lot development.

Critical lake habitats have been protected through integrated resource management practices and the district is not aware of significant problems at this time.

iii) Conflicts Among Users of the Fisheries Resource

Conflicts between users can occur whenever there is an actual or perceived competition for the availability of a fishery resource. These conflicts generally arise between three groups, commercial fishermen, anglers and tourist outfitters, in competing for the top predator fish species.

Conflicts may exist within a particular user group such as non-resident/resident angler discord or differences on the same waterbody between main base tourist operators using boat caches and outpost camp tourist operators.

There may also be conflicts between users of the fishery resource and users of other resources. For example, in areas where timber harvesting occurs tourist outfitters may feel it impacts negatively on aesthetics which may be highly valued for their clientele.

This plan recognizes many of the basic issues including subsistence requirements and commercial utilization of fish resource by the Indian community. Plan amendments will occur if and when an Indian Fishing Agreement requires changes in the document.

iv) Public Involvement and Fisheries Management Information

The managing of a fishery is very complex and generally requires some involvement of the users. In some instances, unrealistic demands are placed upon the resource while in other instances there has been a lack of recognition regarding fisheries concerns by other resource users. Fisheries managers are often hampered by inadequate knowledge or scientific data regarding such items as fisheries productivity and yields, the impacts of management on the day to day activities of fishermen and associated industries and long term species interactions.

Additional information on the complexity of the fisheries resources must be provided by managers to the public. This also includes informing the public on new management techniques such as catch and release, slot size limits or maximum size limits.

Managers also require further involvement from the public in the active management role. This could include such things as providing additional information on fish harvests or spawning locations, assisting and cooperating in experimental management techniques or projects and becoming more involved in the formulating of fisheries management decisions. Tourist outfitters have an important role due to their contact with a large number of anglers, their familiarity with specific waterbodies and their opportunity in some cases to voluntarily attempt experimental management techniques through their clientele.

3.0 Management Direction

3.1 GENERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

The broad fisheries management objective in northwestern Ontario is to protect, rehabilitate, enhance and maintain fish communities and their environment to provide an optimum contribution of fish, fishing opportunities and associated benefits to society.

This objective summarizes the general direction of fisheries management within the Ignace District. From this overall direction general fisheries management principles may be summarized as follows:

- to use available knowledge to the fullest to manage fisheries more effectively and reduce conflicting uses of the environment.

- to maintain and where necessary, rehabilitate aquatic environments.

- to prevent overfishing by monitoring fish communities for signs of stress and adjusting permitted harvests accordingly.

- to allocate fish resources where there are competing users to provide the optimum mix of benefits and to maintain healthy balanced fish populations.

- to develop an expanded knowledge base through the collection and analysis of resource inventory data, and by monitoring the impact of experimental management programs.

- to develop public awareness of fisheries, their values, stresses and management techniques through seminars, brochures and consultation with users.

- to develop increased public participation in maintaining quality fisheries by providing technical advice to users and encouraging users to be involved in volunteer initiatives or cooperative and innovative management techniques.

- to enforce fisheries regulations consistently, equitably and effectively.

From these broad management principles a number of specific objectives and targets have been developed for the local sportfish, lake trout, commercial food fish and commercial baitfish fisheries. These objectives and targets have been identified under section 3.3 in this document.

3.2 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ZONES

Zones have been suggested to assist the district in obtaining the overall broad fisheries management objective. These zones have been established taking into consideration such things as type of fish in area, size of waterbodies, degree of access and amount of fishing pressure. Physical boundaries such as roads, railways and shorelines, were used whenever possible to facilitate identification of zone boundaries.

Fisheries management zones differ from the areas identified in the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines. This results primarily from the fact that DLUG areas were established taking into consideration all land use activities for example; parks, mining, hunting, fishing, forestry and wild rice. The zones identified in this document were established considering only the fisheries resource and its use.

Where neigbouring MNR administrative districts have similar criteria, zones have been extended beyond the district boundary. These zones have been discussed and refined with the bordering districts. Further discussions are necessary in relation to the southern boundary of zone 21 which possibly should extend into the Atikokan District, however, Atikokan is not proposing the use of zones at this time. Should Atikokan not proceed with zones, the southern boundary of zone 21 will be established as the boundary between the two administrative districts. Further refinement is required for zones 25 and 26 which will likely extend into the Thunder Bay District. Although discussions with Thunder Bay have taken place, exact boundaries have not been established at this time. Zones are shown on figure 5.

The use of zones identifies for the public more specific areas where management actions will be carried out than does the existing fisheries divisions. These zones may be established in legislation, as required, to provide for the tailoring of future management actions.

Management intents have been indicated for each zone. These intents are consistent with the broad fisheries management objective and specific management objectives. The intents of the zones assist managers in determining where

IGNACE DISTRICT

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FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ZONES AND INTENTS

LEGEND

ZONE 22

- MANAGE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE WARMWATER FISHERIES WHILE MAINTAINING THE QUALITY OF THE LAKE TROUT FISHERIES.
- MANAGE FOR INCREASED ROAD ACCESSIBLE TOURISM BASED OPPORTUNITIES.
- MANAGE FOR INCREASED ROAD ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS AND TOURISM BASED NON-RESIDENTS.

ZONE 26

- MANAGE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY O WARMWATER FISHERIES AND MAINTAI QUALITY OF THE LAKE TROUT FISHE
- MANAGE FOR INCREASED ANGLIN OPPORTUNITIES, PRIMARILY REMOTE FOR ALL ANGLERS.
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING ROAD ACCESS RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

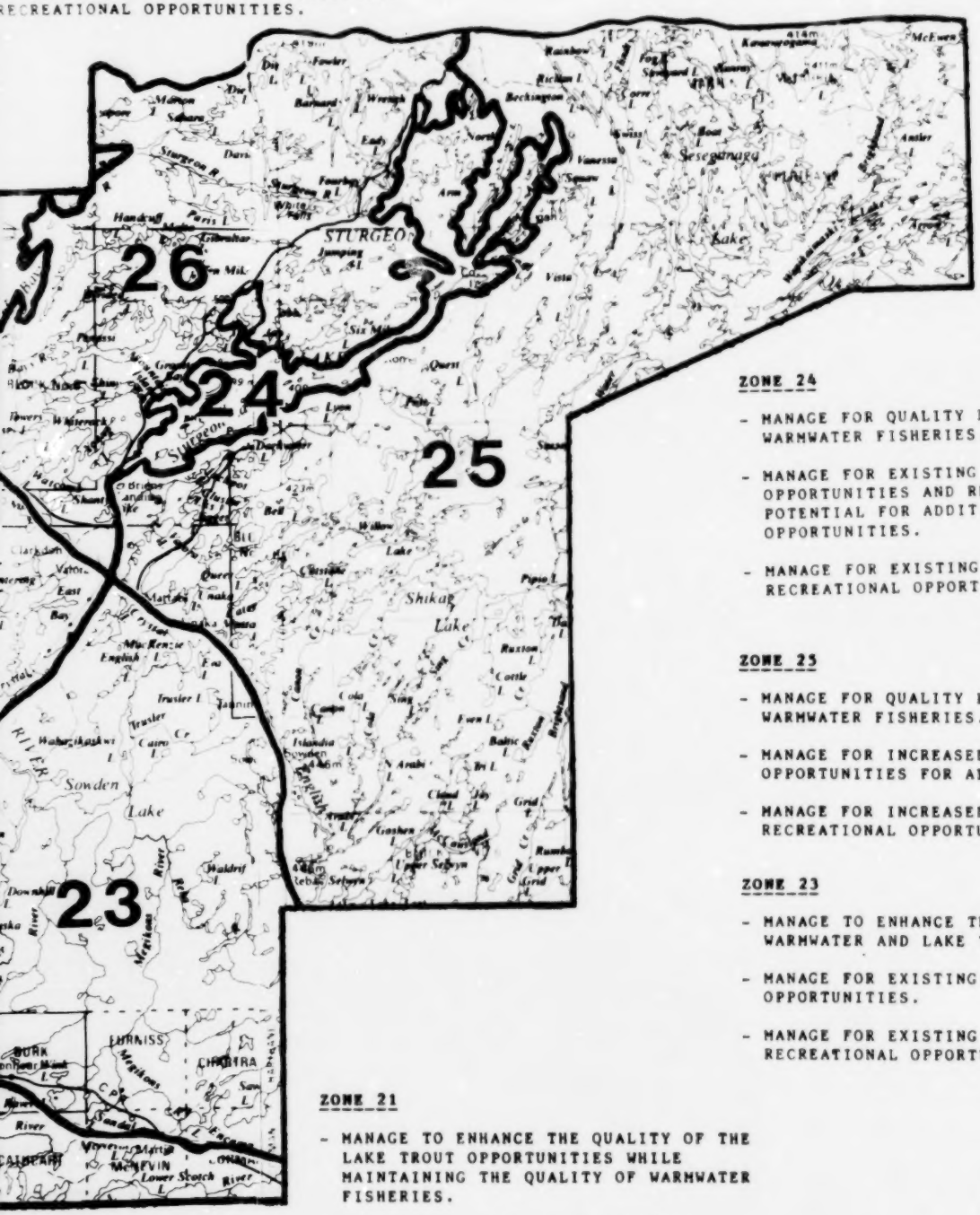
FIGURE 5

NE 26

MANAGE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE WARMWATER FISHERIES AND MAINTAIN THE QUALITY OF THE LAKE TROUT FISHERIES.

MANAGE FOR INCREASED ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES, PRIMARILY REMOTE, FOR ALL ANGLERS.

MANAGE FOR EXISTING ROAD ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.



ZONE 24

- MANAGE FOR QUALITY LAKE TROUT AND WARMWATER FISHERIES.
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES AND REVIEW POTENTIAL FOR ADDITIONAL TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES.
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING ROAD ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

ZONE 25

- MANAGE FOR QUALITY LAKE TROUT AND WARMWATER FISHERIES.
- MANAGE FOR INCREASED REMOTE ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL ANGLERS.
- MANAGE FOR INCREASED ROAD ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

ZONE 23

- MANAGE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE WARMWATER AND LAKE TROUT FISHERIES.
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES.
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING ROAD ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

ZONE 21

- MANAGE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE LAKE TROUT OPPORTUNITIES WHILE MAINTAINING THE QUALITY OF WARMWATER FISHERIES.
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES.
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING ROAD ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

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specific strategies and tactics should be implemented and in measuring the achievement of the targets. They also identify for the public why certain strategies and tactics are implemented in any given zone.

i) Zone 21

Description

The majority of the water area in this zone is coldwater. It comprises approximately 90% of the district's small lake trout lakes. The western part of the zone is accessed fairly extensively by logging roads and there is a road presently being constructed between Highway 17 and Atikokan. The majority of the district's winter fishing for lake trout occurs in this zone. Existing tourism facilities consist of eleven (11) main base lodges, fifteen (15) outposts plus hotel/motel accommodation in the Township of Ignace. Cottages exist on 16 lakes. No commercial food fisheries exist within the zone.

Management Intent

-Manage to enhance the quality of the lake trout opportunities while maintaining the quality of warmwater fisheries.

Although the overall harvest of lake trout in the district does not exceed the allowable yield, the data from other zones would indicate that the harvest from this zone is at or exceeding the allowable yield. The average lake trout taken by the angler appears to have decreased in size.

Warmwater fisheries (those fisheries associated with lakes which do not possess characteristics necessary to support salmonids such as lake trout and brook trout) are not extensive in this zone. Although contributing to the overall district problem of a walleye over harvest, this zone would appear to offer a reasonable quality opportunity for this species. Some lakes are fished more extensively than others.

-Manage for existing tourism opportunities.

The zone will be managed for existing tourism activities. No new tourism developments based solely on the lake trout and walleye resources will be permitted. This is necessary due to the existing pressure and the large number of small lake trout lakes. The potential for additional cottages will be looked at only for lakes falling within Ignace and Osaquan Townships. This will result in changes to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines. Relocation of tourism boat caches may be permitted but in general additional boat caches will not be permitted. This will be addressed on a case by case basis. Remote angling opportunities will be protected in specific areas to ensure the future of this experience (figure 4).

-Manage for existing road accessible recreational opportunities.

Generally road access to new fisheries will be discouraged but may be considered to some warmwater lakes to encourage fishing for alternate species such as smallmouth bass or whitefish. With the exception of the road to Atikokan, which has already been approved and is under construction, no major roads are proposed in the near future (five years) and are limited within the time frame of this plan.

ii) Zone 22

Description

This zone contains the majority of the larger coldwater and warmwater lakes. It has been subjected to the heaviest fishing pressure in the district particularly for walleye and is almost totally accessed by logging roads. Existing tourism facilities consist of six (6) main base operations, ten (10) outposts and hotel/motel accommodation located within the Township of Ignace. A provincial park is also located within the zone. Cottages are located on 11 lakes. Commercial food fisheries licenced primarily for the harvest of whitefish are located on four (4) lakes.

Management Intent

-Manage to enhance the quality of the warmwater fisheries while maintaining the quality of the lake trout fisheries.

The zone has received extensive angling pressure particularly on the warmwater lakes. Fishing success and average size of walleye and northern pike have declined although some trophies are occasionally taken. The harvest of lake trout in the district overall has not exceeded

the overall district allowable yield but the allowable yield for some individual lake trout lakes within this zone has been exceeded.

-Manage for increased road accessible tourism based opportunities.

Non-resident use of this zone is through existing tourist operations based within the zone, extensive camping on crown land and day use from tourist operations located outside of the zone. The potential exists to restructure the use of this zone by non-residents to generate an increase in economic benefits derived from the fisheries. An example would be to prohibit camping by non-residents and explore the possibility of new tourism developments. The possibility of permitting additional cottages will be explored in this zone within area 5 described in the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines. Commercial boat caches are generally established by the tourism industry to provide angling opportunities to their guests. This form of fisheries based tourism must be addressed in relation to other forms of tourism to determine if additional boat caches will be permitted.

-Manage for increased road accessible recreational opportunities for residents and tourism based non-residents.

This zone has been extensively accessed. Some new roads within the short term (5 years) are proposed. Access to new waterbodies will not be discouraged taking into consideration tourism and fisheries habitat guidelines. Some existing roads and access points may be upgraded. The establishment of a no crown land camping zone for non-residents will allow for additional opportunities for residents while still permitting use by tourism based non-residents.

iii) Zone 23

Description

The vast majority of this zone is comprised of warmwater lakes. Only two lake trout lakes have been identified. Existing tourism is primarily day use. Four (4) main base lodges and one (1) outpost are located within the zone. Cottages are located on 7 lakes. The majority of the zone is road accessible with extensive fishing pressure on the larger lakes and some of the smaller lakes. A commercial food fishery licenced primarily for whitefish is located on one (1) lake.

Management Intent

-Manage to enhance the quality of the warmwater and lake trout fisheries.

This zone has been fairly extensively angled with the result that overall fishing success and size of fish have decreased. This is most noticeable for walleye in Sowden Lake and the English River.

Although primarily a warmwater zone the larger lake trout lake (Cecil Lake) is extensively angled and the quality of the fishery has decreased.

-Manage for existing tourism opportunities.

This zone will be managed to provide for existing tourism opportunities. New tourism developments or uses such as boat caches, based strictly on the fisheries resource will not be permitted. This will result in changes to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines which recommends considering new tourism developments on Willow Narrows and Wabuske Lakes. Additional cottaging will be considered in this zone only within the area described as area 5 in the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines. This will also result in a change to DLUG which recommends considering cottage development on Wabazikaskwi Lake.

-Manage for existing road accessible recreational opportunities.

Some new logging roads will be constructed in the near future (within 5 years) but due to their locations will have little impact on the fisheries. No other logging roads are proposed within the duration of this plan.

iv) Zone 24

Description

This zone (Sturgeon Lake) is a single lake zone which is the largest waterbody in the district. It contains approximately 10% of the water surface area and allowable fish yield for the district. It is fished primarily for the excellent lake trout opportunities but also

contains good populations of walleye and northern pike. Ten (10) main base lodges, one (1) campground, one (1) flying service and one (1) outpost operated by one of the main base lodges are located on the lake. Twenty six cottages are also found in various locations. Access to the lake, other than through the main base lodges, can be found at both the north and south end of the lake, with all access restricted to the west shore. The one exception to this is on the south east end of the lake in the vicinity of Mattabi Mine. One commercial food fishery exists on the lake.

Management Intent

-Manage for quality lake trout and warmwater fisheries.

This zone contains all major fish species (lake trout, walleye, northern pike, smallmouth bass) found in the district. Species composition of angled fish has shifted from primarily walleye in the mid sixties to lake trout at present. Fishing success especially for lake trout is excellent. Data indicates the harvest of fish is approximately 2% of the allowable yield but may be higher. The lake could produce trophy quality fish particularly lake trout. The existing commercial fishery which is primarily for whitefish will be allowed to continue.

-Manage for existing tourism opportunities and review the potential for additional tourism opportunities.

Disposition of crown land for the purpose of new tourism development based on utilization of the fisheries will not be permitted at this time. This will assist in ensuring that a high quality fishery and the associated economic benefits are maintained. The lake will be reviewed to determine the potential for additional tourism opportunities. Crown land will not be made available for additional cottages.

-Manage for existing road accessible recreational opportunities.

Camping on crown land by non-residents is presently prohibited within this zone. This may encourage additional use by residents as well as assist in maintaining a quality fishery. Day use by residents and non-residents is permitted.

v) Zone 25

Description

This zone consists primarily of warmwater lakes. It contains only three known coldwater lakes, two of which are the larger lakes within the zone and one smaller lake where a lake trout population was confirmed in 1986. Fishing pressure is moderate compared to other areas within the district. The zone contains a number of inaccessible lakes with the existing tourism facilities consisting of three (3) main base lodges and twenty seven (27) outposts. Camping by non-residents on crown land has been prohibited in a portion of the zone. A commercial food fishery exists on one lake and cottages are located on 9 lakes.

Management Intent

-Manage for quality lake trout and warmwater fisheries.

Although the harvest exceeds the allowable yield for walleye in the district overall it is felt that in this zone the allowable yield has not been exceeded. Fishing pressure is moderate with the majority of the pressure occurring from tourism based anglers. Crown land camping by non-residents was prohibited in one area to reduce pressure on some accessible lakes. Camping and day use fishing activity still exists primarily in areas recently accessed. Data on fishing success in this zone is limited but success and quality would appear to be good.

-Manage for increased remote angling opportunities for all anglers.

Some areas within this zone have been protected to provide for remote angling opportunities in the past. This will be continued and any road construction within these areas will take this into consideration (figure 4). As well, additional remote opportunities based on the fisheries resource are available within these areas and will be allowed. Additional cottaging will not be considered in this zone. This will require a revision to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines. Additional commercial boat caches may be permitted and will be addressed on a case by case basis within the overall tourism framework.

-Manage for increased road accessible recreational opportunities.

Roads are proposed within the short term (5 years) and long term (up to 20 years) which have the potential to increase access in this zone particularly in the southern portion. Little data is available on the lakes in this area but as lakes are assessed access may be permitted to create additional road accessible opportunities. These opportunities have the possibility of diverting pressure from other more heavily used zones. Roads proposed in areas to provide for remote angling opportunities will have access controlled.

vi) Zone 26

Description

This zone contains a mixture of warmwater and coldwater lakes. The southern two thirds of the zone has been extensively accessed resulting in relatively high fishing pressure. The northern portion of the zone has little access and moderate to low fishing pressure. Tourism facilities consist of four (4) main base lodges, one (1) campground and one (1) flying service. No outpost camps are located in the zone. Cottages are located on 7 lakes. A commercial food fishery is established on one lake.

Management Intent

-Manage to enhance the quality of the warmwater fisheries and maintain the quality of the lake trout fisheries.

Most of the fishing pressure in this zone has been directed toward the warmwater species particularly walleye which have been heavily fished in some lakes. Success rates for walleye have decreased in some waters however data is very limited coming primarily from angler perceptions. Pressure on the lake trout lakes has not been as heavy. The majority of the pressure is from tourism based anglers or crown land campers.

-Manage for increased angling opportunities, primarily remote, for all anglers.

New tourism starts based on the fisheries resource will be permitted. These new starts will be primarily remote but in some cases may be road accessible depending on location. The northern part of the zone will be managed for remote angling opportunities (figure 4). Some additional commercial boat caches may be permitted and will be addressed within the overall tourism framework. Additional cottaging will not be permitted. This will result in a change to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines.

-Manage for existing road accessible recreational opportunities.

No new road access is proposed in this zone for the duration of the plan. Road accessible opportunities which presently exist may continue but no attempt will be made to maintain these or create additional opportunities.

3.3 SPECIFIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

Specific fisheries management objectives have been identified for Sportfish, Lake Trout, Commercial Baitfish and Commercial Food Fish. The purpose of these objectives is to identify for the user and the manager the end result which is to be attained. These are consistent with the broad objective but reflect demands of the resource user and the capacity of the local fisheries to meet the demand. These objectives have been refined from the specific fisheries management objectives identified in the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines and although very similar in most instances will require modification of DLUG.

Targets to be achieved by the year 2000 have been assigned to Sportfish, Lake Trout, Commercial Baitfish and Commercial Food Fish. These targets are to assist in measuring the attainment of the objective. The Ignace District Land Use Guideline targets have been refined in this document to represent more realistic values based on the most current fisheries information.

In addition to refining targets, some of the preferred strategies and tactics indicated in this document will also result in other changes to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines particularly in some of the designated land use activities. Changes to the DLUG as a result of fisheries management planning are itemized in Appendix 2.

The four general categories of problems and issues have been identified previously. Within these general categories specific problems and

issues have been identified which must be overcome to allow for target achievement.

Strategies to assist in overcoming a problem have been identified. One or more strategies may be required to provide a solution to a specific problem. As well tactics to provide for the achievement of a strategy are shown. More than one tactic may be required to achieve a specific strategy.

Strategies and tactics are listed according to the problem they are addressing. These must be constantly monitored to determine their effectiveness in solving the problem and their influence on the achievement of the targets.

Recommended strategies and tactics and the details of implementation for the first five year period (1987-1991) are presented in the Implementation Schedule. This schedule identifies precisely what tactics and associated assessment will be carried out the first five years of the plan.

Tactics which have been identified throughout the text but not included in the Implementation Schedule for the first five years may have to be modified if and when they are implemented. This may be necessary based on the results of the assessment.

3.3.1 Sportfish Management Objective and Targets

SPORTFISH MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

To provide for optimum social and economic benefits derived through sportfish while maintaining self-sustaining populations.

The term "Sportfish" includes: walleye, northern pike, smallmouth bass and yellow perch. Of these species walleye and northern pike are the most preferred by the angler. Small quotas of these species have been assigned to the commercial fisheries to provide for their incidental catch while harvesting whitefish.

Lake trout are also a sportfish species but due to their sensitivity and unique biological characteristics have been identified seperately for the purpose of this planning exercise.

Conservation of the resource is of prime importance and must be recognized as the primary management consideration. To ensure conservation (i.e. prevent over exploitation, destruction or neglect) habitat and harvest levels must provide for resource regeneration.

The Sportfish objective must recognize use by all groups while considering the relative contribution of each in terms of economic and social benefits. In general, the recreational harvest of sportfish will provide the greatest economic return for those species. However this may fail to recognize other economic and social benefits which may be lost if only maximum value is considered.

SPORTFISH TARGET

Maintain the harvest below the allowable yield of 369,700 kilograms per year while meeting the demand for opportunities of 178,000 angler days.

The figure of 369,700 kilograms per year is the sum of the allowable yields for walleye, northern pike, smallmouth bass and yellow perch. It is representative of the maximum harvest that could be taken while still providing for a self-sustaining population. This figure has not been established as a target that must be reached but rather as a figure below which the harvest must be maintained to ensure high quality fishing, such as trophy opportunities. Consistently taking the maximum allowable yield may result in smaller fish and fewer trophy opportunities. Optimum economic and social benefits may not be achieved as a result since many anglers prefer high quality fishing with an opportunity to catch a trophy.

Opportunities of 178,000 angler days is the projected demand to the year 2000. These opportunities need not be restricted to ensure that the harvest does not exceed the allowable yield for specific species or for the district overall. This may mean however, that some lakes or zones may not be available to all users all the time and angler preference or satisfaction level must be modified. An example of this is walleye which is presently in an over harvest situation (Table 1). The harvest must be reduced to maintain or enhance quality but angler opportunities need not be restricted if pressure is diverted to alternate species such as smallmouth bass, if other tactics such as

maximum size limits are effective or if anglers voluntarily kill less fish. This then would allow for the present angling opportunities to increase to the projected demand thereby providing for conservation as well as potential for increased economic benefit from the resource.

3.3.2 Lake Trout Management Objective and Targets

LAKE TROUT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

To maximize high quality recreational angling opportunities while maintaining self-sustaining populations.

The lake trout are extremely sensitive to exploitation due to their unique biological characteristics and the limnological characteristics of the lakes in which they exist. Harvest levels must provide for regeneration of the species, therefore, allowing for maximum harvest is not indicated in the objective. As for sportfish, allowing the maximum harvest of lake trout may not provide maximum economic and social benefits. It is the intent to maximize angling opportunities within the context of a high quality recreational experience.

Their sensitivity and importance in relation to economic and social benefits is recognized in the objective by managing solely for angling opportunities. This objective would require a change to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines.

LAKE TROUT TARGET

Maintain the harvest below the allowable yield of 40,100 kilograms per year while meeting the demand for opportunities of 20,000 angler days.

The figure 40,100 kilograms per year is the district allowable yield for lake trout. It is representative of the maximum harvest that could be taken while still providing for a self-sustaining population. This figure has not been established as a target to be reached but rather as a figure below which the harvest must be maintained in order to generate high quality angling opportunities.

Opportunities of 20,000 angler days is the projected demand to the year 2000. It is felt that these opportunities need not be restricted in order to meet the management objective. To accomplish this lake trout harvests must be reduced but by maintaining or enhancing this fishery and promoting it as a quality or trophy opportunity additional economic benefits may be generated. Some lakes or zones may not be available to all users in the traditional manner and angler preference or satisfaction level may need to be modified through an emphasis on more recreation and less kill.

The lake trout target results from refinement of the most recent data available and subsequently would require a change to DLUG.

3.3.3 Commercial Food Fish Management Objective and Targets

COMMERCIAL FOOD FISH MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

To maintain a viable industry by encouraging the harvest of commercial fish, under the quota management system, where it is biologically, economically and socially acceptable.

The primary commercially fished species in the district is whitefish. Small quotas have been established for lake trout, walleye and northern pike but are not designed as targets. Coarse fish (suckers, burbot) are taken but due to market conditions are rarely fished extensively.

The management objective is aimed primarily at encouraging the harvest of species not providing recreational angling opportunities such as whitefish and coarse fish. Commercial fisheries will be continued for these species in lakes where it is biologically feasible (not detrimental to other species) and economically and socially acceptable. The establishment of this objective would require a minor change to the DLUG objective.

COMMERCIAL FOOD FISH TARGET

To sustain an annual harvest of 41,600 kilograms per year of whitefish.

This target is the sum of the existing quotas for whitefish. This species is the primary target species of all commercial fisheries in the district. Small quotas on some sportfish species are provided to the commercial fisheries but are not intended as a target and the commercial fisheries are not encouraged to harvest the quota.

The target also does not include coarse fish which are not under quota and the harvest of which is primarily controlled by market limitations.

The Ignace District Land Use Guidelines have established a target aimed at all commercially caught species of fish which included sportfish, whitefish, and coarse fish such as suckers, ciscoes and burbot. Since this target singles out a species (whitefish) a change to DLUG will be required.

3.3.4 Commercial Baitfish Management Objective and Targets

COMMERCIAL BAITFISH MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

To provide for the harvest of baitfish for use by the sport fishery recognizing the overall social and economic benefits primarily generated through the maintenance of a viable baitfish industry.

The baitfish industry in northwestern Ontario employs several hundred people and economically represents about one half of the provincial baitfish industry. The management objective recognizes the economic value of this resource.

No specific objective was established in DLUG for baitfish. Therefore a change will be required to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines.

COMMERCIAL BAITFISH TARGET

To provide 108,600 dozen baitfish by the year 2000.

This target represents the projected demand by the recreational sport fishery based on projected increases in angler numbers in relation to past harvest levels. In terms of the district waters ability to produce baitfish this increase is considered insignificant.

This target will result in a change to the target established in DLUG of 105,000 dozen.

3.4 STRATEGIES AND TACTICS

Strategies and tactics are identified for a specific problem or issue that must be overcome to allow for an associated target and objective to be met. These specific problems and issues are grouped under the four general categories previously described in Section 2.4 Overview.

3.4.1 Quality Fishing Opportunities

Problem 1.

Current (and projected) harvest of walleye exceeds the allowable yield.

This is a problem when looking at the district in an overall perspective but is not a problem in all lakes or zones. The current harvest of walleye is 261,200 kilograms and the projected harvest to the year 2000 based on current management practices is 301,100 kilograms. The district annual allowable yield is 166,200 kilograms. It becomes obvious when comparing these figures that the kill of walleye must be reduced to maintain the quality of this fishery.

The over harvest of walleye is most prevalent in zone 22 and zone 23 where decreases in average size is most noticeable. As a result the quality of the angling opportunity has decreased, however the occasional trophy is still taken. Also contributing to the problem but to a lesser degree are harvests from specific lakes within zones 21 and 26. Additional data and further analysis of current programs are needed to quantify the situation.

Although this problem specifically addresses the over harvest of walleye, it will also apply to northern pike by the year 2000. Projected harvests for northern pike based on current management practices indicate the allowable yield will be exceeded by up to 30,000 kilograms. Therefore similar strategies and tactics indicated for walleye must also be implemented for this species.

Strategy 1)

Reduce the harvest of walleye so it does not exceed the allowable yield level.

This strategy would apply to the district as a whole but individual tactics to accomplish this strategy may not be implemented in all zones. A reduction in walleye limits is not being considered in the near future. Prior to considering this the other tactics implemented

and existing programs such as the Crown Land Recreation Progam will be evaluated as to their success or failure in reducing walleye harvests. However to maintain the overall quality of this fishery over a wide geographic area and over time it may be the most effective tactic. Public comments received on the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document indicated that a reduction in walleye limits would be acceptable but only if other options were implemented and failed to provide a solution to the problem.

Tactic 1.a)

Implement a possession limit of one walleye over 50 centimetres (19.5 inches) in size.

Note: Daily and possession limits will remain at six but only one over 50 centimetres in size will be allowed in an angler's possession.

In terms of weight, this size limit would be approximately 1.5 kilograms or 3.25 pounds in this district. This tactic would assist in providing protection to some of the prime spawners and develop a higher quality fishery by providing additional larger fish and allowing more anglers an opportunity to catch a larger fish. This tactic will be implemented in all zones across the district.

This tactic would also be implemented for northern pike to enhance or maintain high quality fisheries. The size would be established at 70 centimetres (27.5 inches) and in terms of weight would represent approximately 2.3 kilograms or 5 pounds for this district. This would also be implemented in all zones.

Pre-assessment to determine the numbers of fish presently taken above these sizes will be conducted with post assessment to follow implementation to determine how harvest changes as a result of this tactic. Sizes may be adjusted throughout the plan period if deemed necessary.

Few public comments on size limits were received during the review of the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document. Comments received however, were in favour of some type of size limit.

Tactic 1.b)

Establish new sanctuaries for the period April 15 to June 15 on specific walleye spawning locations.

This tactic will be implemented in zone 23 on Sowden Lake (Megikons River) and English River (Telephone Falls), in zone 22 on Indian Lake (Camp Creek and Little Indian Bridge) and in zone 26 on Fourbay Lake (Barnard Creek). This tactic will allow for protection of the fish in these prime spawning locations to disperse prior to being subject to exploitation. This should provide for survival of larger numbers of prime brood stock.

Data collection prior to implementation of this tactic will be conducted to determine number of fish taken from these locations during the period from opening of season to June 15. It will also allow for adjustment in the dates if deemed appropriate. Post assessment following implementation will then be conducted in the vicinity of these sanctuaries to determine the effectiveness in providing for survival of larger numbers of brood stock. Public comments received on the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document indicated that sanctuaries were required particularly on the specific locations mentioned above.

Tactic 1.c)

Permit increased road access to generate more angling options and spread out pressure.

Increased road access will be permitted in zone 22 specifically to the small unaccessed warmwater lakes and zone 25 specifically in the southern portion of the zone. Further data must be obtained prior to specifying individual lakes. Direct access may not be provided to prime walleye lakes. This may not lower the overall harvest of walleye but should assist in alleviating pressure from some of the heavier fished lakes or zones. Other tactics indicated in this document will assist in maintaining quality fisheries in these new lakes. This tactic will result in changes to the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines primarily in zone 22.

The effect of angler harvests on the status of fish populations will be conducted on lakes where increased road access is permitted.

Previous public comments on the feasibility of this type of tactic were mixed and were primarily related to the concept that access would reach lakes soon enough and should not be encouraged.

Tactic i.d)

Implement the angler validation tag system for non-residents.

This tactic will be considered for zone 21 where the day tripper (individuals travelling to the area for a days fishing and returning home the same day) may become prevalent upon completion of the road connecting Highway 17 west of Ignace with Atikokan. This would require non-resident anglers who are fishing this zone and not staying over night to purchase a tag in addition to the regular fishing licence. This system has been introduced in the border water area of northwestern Ontario to conserve the fisheries resource in the area, to provide a stimulus to the Ontario based tourist industry by improving fishing quality, and to provide an effective way of identifying and monitoring how many non-resident anglers use the area on a day trip basis, in the event that future conservation and/or management efforts are required. The zone will be monitored throughout the course of this plan to determine when and if this tactic should be implemented.

Tactic i.e)

Implement additional no camping zones for non-residents.

This tactic would be implemented in zone 22 to encourage non-resident campers to redistribute their pressure to less heavily fished areas. A survey of crown land campers in the Ignace District in 1985 determined that 63% of non-resident crown land campers were in zone 22. It would also create the possibility of converting this type of use into additional opportunities for residents or tourism based non-residents.

Tactic i.f)

Implement experimental slot size technique for walleye.

This type of management technique (prohibiting the keeping of fish within a certain size range) is still in an experimental stage and the effectiveness has not been fully analysed. The idea is to protect the prime spawners while still permitting angling activities to occur. It is felt that this will permit more fish to reach a larger size thereby developing a better quality fishery as well as protecting the spawners to ensure that population numbers increase. In theory, a protected length range for walleye should sustain angling yields and allow increases in fishing effort without adversely affecting the quality in terms of catch rates and size of fish. Harvesting walleye smaller than the slot "thins out" large year classes at relatively small sizes, reducing intraspecific competition for food. This maintains growth and recruitment into and through the protected slot, and should sustain the availability of large fish above the slot.

Sowden Lake in zone 23 has been chosen as a candidate for this type of experiment due to the high harvest in the past which has reduced population numbers and the size of walleye taken.

Prior to implementing this technique data would be required to determine what size should be incorporated in the slot. This type of experimental management is presently being conducted in other areas of the province. The success of these experiments will also be reviewed prior to implementing in this area. Following implementation the effects would have to be evaluated. Sowden Lake is ideal for this due to its ease of access and location of spawning facilities.

Very few comments, either pro or con, were received on the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document in relation to this tactic.

Strategy ii)

Increase the district production of walleye.

This strategy is designed to assist in alleviating the over harvest problem by creating

additional walleye populations thereby increasing the allowable yield.

Tactic II.a)

Create additional self-sustaining walleye lakes through adult transfers.

This tactic will be implemented primarily in lakes identified as being void of all sportfish species except northern pike or yellow perch. The lakes proposed for these transfers will be assessed for suitable habitat and the implications of such an introduction on the existing natural fish community. The transfers will be considered with the express purpose of establishing a naturally reproducing population. Other lakes may be identified for potential introductions as data is collected through the Aquatic Habitat Inventory Program.

Further investigation will be conducted on the lakes identified in the Implementation Schedule to ensure characteristics essential to maintaining self-sustaining walleye populations exist prior to implementing adult transfers. As well lakes must be identified which will provide the adult fish necessary for transferring to other waterbodies. Following transfers assessment will be conducted to determine if the tactic was successful.

There are important implications to be considered with respect to stocking. It can be detrimental to native fish stocks either directly by competition or predation, or indirectly through the introduction of disease organisms. Stocking, especially hatchery raised fish, is also a very expensive management tool and the rationale and justification for stocking must be carefully considered.

This tactic is a more effective way of increasing angling opportunities than hatchery fish stocking, especially put and take which do not naturally reproduce. However the stocking of artificially hatched and reared fish does have its place as an effective technique of fisheries management. These fish are generally stocked in order to rehabilitate severely depleted natural fisheries, to create new fisheries in barren waters or to provide an alternate type of fishing opportunity.

Brook trout and rainbow trout have been introduced into some small barren lakes in the district. Natural reproduction of brook trout has occured in several of these lakes. This is not the case with rainbow trout which have subsequently been dropped from the districts stocking program. The feasibility of continuing the stocking of brook trout will have to be considered in view of the high costs involved, the fact they are reproducing in some waters and that other fishing opportunities are available.

The Ignace District is not in a situation where stocking of hatchery raised species is a necessary or practical technique. There are adequate natural spawning populations in the lakes throughout the district. Native fish are also genetically and phenotypically adapted to their specific environment and generally have a better survival rate and reproductive success than introduced stocks. Maintaining habitat and a suitable abundance of brood stock will ensure a high quality fishery.

A substantial number of public comments in favour of stocking were received during the review of the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document.

Strategy III)

Redirect angling opportunities to alternative species.

This strategy will assist in providing a solution to the problem by encouraging the angler to direct effort toward those species which are not considered to be prime target species or are in no danger of being over harvested.

Tactic III.a)

Promote the use of alternative species for activities such as fish derbies or shore lunches.

Fish derbies typically encourage anglers to catch the more popular species of sportfish. By restructuring derbies anglers may be encouraged to expend more effort fishing for alternate species such as smallmouth bass, yellow perch and whitefish. This has the potential to reduce the harvest of walleye but maintaining the angling opportunities. This initiative has potential across the province and would require input on a provincial level.

The promotion of alternate species for use in shore lunches would assist in reducing the overall harvest of walleye. Tourist operators would be required to play a major role in promoting this concept to their guests.

Problem 2.

Current (and projected) harvest of lake trout exceeds the allowable yield for the district as a whole, excluding zone 24 (Sturgeon Lake).

This problem applies for the district as a whole as identified in Table 2, excluding Sturgeon Lake. Zones 21, 22 and 23 are where the problem is most accute with zones 25 and 26 contributing but to a lessor degree.

Strategy 1)

Reduce the harvest of lake trout so it does not exceed the allowable yield level.

This strategy is a must if quality opportunities for lake trout are to be enhanced or maintained to the year 2000.

Tactic i.a)

Non-resident lake trout anglers (excluding property owners) must be accommodated at tourist operations.

This tactic would be implemented similar to the existing program in place for non-resident bear hunters. It would involve all non-residents who are not property owners or immediate relatives of Ontario residents to be accommodated at a tourist establishment if they desired the opportunity to angle for lake trout. This would have the benefit of potentially providing additional clients and economic benefits for existing tourist operators and may spread the pressure out over the entire season more evenly. This tactic would be implemented in all zones.

Currently information is being collected to determine the number of non-resident lake trout anglers who are not accommodated at tourist establishments and the locations fished. Following implementation information will be collected to determine the effect of this tactic in reducing the harvest of lake trout.

Tactic i.b)

Reduce catch and possession limit to two lake trout for non-residents and residents.

This tactic would be implemented in all zones to ensure harvest does not exceed the allowable yield and to ensure that quality fisheries persist. This tactic will not reduce opportunities but will ensure that some reduction in the harvest occurs to allow for continued long term angling opportunities. Information is presently being collected to determine the total number of lake trout anglers and numbers of lake trout in their daily catch. This data will be used for comparison purposes to determine the effectiveness of the tactic after it has been implemented.

Following implementation if it is determined that this tactic, in conjunction with other preferred tactics, have not resolved the problem other methods may have to be considered. Examples of tactics that may have to be considered at a later point in time are: an annual tag system (annual catch limit) for non-residents where a licence holder would be issued with a controlled number of tags which must immediately be attached to a fish upon retention (daily and possession limits would still apply); or implement a possession limit of one lake trout over a certain size in the spring and fall (similar to the tactic for walleye).

Previous public comments received relative to a reduction in the lake trout limits were few and were mixed with regard to lowering the limits, leaving them the same or increasing limits.

Tactic i.c)

Implement pulse fishing for lake trout on an experimental basis in two lakes in zone 21.

This tactic would create additional angling opportunities for a short period of time only. Two lakes, Deerhide and Fawn, would be opened for one season only (fisheries must be examined to determine specific date) then closed. Initially the closure would be for an indifinate period of time to allow for assessment to determine length of closure required. The lakes would then be reopened for a season and closed again for a

specified period of time. For instance, following an open season they may be closed for a period of 8 years to allow for young fish to grow and spawn prior to being caught. The two lakes suggested are both single basin relatively shallow lakes, presently sanctuaries, with very limited populations of lake trout. It has been suggested that the adult population in one lake may not exceed fifty lake trout. The theory is that the adult lake trout because of the characteristics of the lake are feeding on the young when they both must inhabit the relatively small basin during the warmer months. The young are only allowed to grow and advance through the life cycle when the adults begin dieing of old age. By allowing anglers to pulse fish the lakes this would, in effect, be creating a situation similar to that which is occurring naturally but would be providing some angler opportunities of a high quality.

Problem 3.

Planning for additional opportunities is required in view of the current and projected use in relation to the allowable yield. Some zones have a greater potential to provide additional opportunities than other zones.

Current data indicates that some zones particularly zone 24 (Sturgeon Lake) and potentially zone 25 (southern area) could provide additional angling opportunities. It is recognized that in relation to the Target and Objective this does not represent a significant problem. However it may provide an opportunity to redistribute pressure from a heavily stressed zone to these zones. Existing data on the degree of the potential available opportunities must be reviewed carefully and in some cases may require updating. Controls presently exist limiting non-resident use (prohibited camping by non-residents) in zone 24 and a portion of zone 25 and further development of crown land has been restricted in zone 24. Removal of these controls, as suggested in the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document, may be counterproductive in relation to the intent of providing quality recreational opportunities and therefore is not being considered at this time.

Crown land as a development tool in providing increased economic benefits is being addressed in an area encompassing most of fisheries management zone 22 and a portion of zones 21 and 23. This area comprises area 5 of the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines plus the townships of Ignace and Oeaquan. Proposals which may be generated from this study, such as cottaging or tourism, may have an impact on the fisheries resource and must be considered when planning for additional angling opportunities.

Strategy 1)

Direct existing angling opportunities and potential additional opportunities to specific zones.

It is recognized that it is not possible nor is it desireable to redirect all existing opportunities to specific zones. However it may be possible to enhance the quality of fisheries or provide additional opportunities in high use zones by redistributing some existing use to zones with the potential to provide additional opportunities.

Based on current data zones 24 and 25 and to a lesser degree zone 26 have been identified as potentially being capable of providing additional opportunities. Zone 22 may have the potential for additional angling opportunities once other tactics have been implemented which may encourage a relocation of anglers. Planning for additional angling opportunities must be addressed in terms of quality experiences as indicated in the intent for the management zones.

Tactic 1.a)

Identify new tourism opportunities that could potentially be developed and develop a system for allocating opportunities in conjunction with the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation.

This tactic would apply primarily in zones 24 and 25 where there is a potential based solely on the fisheries resource to create additional opportunities. This tactic must recognize the intent of the zone regarding quality recreational opportunities. This tactic would also apply in zones 22 and 26 where tourism opportunities may be available as a result of relocation of anglers through the implementation of other tactics rather than the zones being capable of supporting additional angling opportunities at this time. The challenge to managers will be in

how to best allocate these opportunities to most effectively meet the objectives.

The following lakes have been identified in the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines as having a potential for tourism development: Zone 23- Willow Narrows and Wabuska lakes; Zone 22- Hook lake; Zone 25-Cottle, Quill, Post, Willow, Willet, Pipio, Squew lakes and the chain of Empress, King and Goodman lakes.; Zone 26- Conver, Handcuff, Paris, and Divided lakes. As well, Kukukus lake in zone 22 and Sturgeon Lake (zone 24) may have potential and would require a change to DLUG.

Tactic 1.b)

Permit expansion of existing tourism facilities.

Expansion of tourism facilities will be considered in zones 22, 24, 25, and 26 on a case by case basis. These zones have been identified as being capable of supporting expansion of tourism facilities based solely on the fisheries resource or, as is the case in zone 22, expansion may be possible following implementation of other tactics to disperse users to other areas or conversion of present use to tourism. This will result in some changes to DLUG. The identification of these zones does not rule out the possibility of expansion being possible in other zones only that based on existing fisheries use these zones have the greatest potential.

Assessment prior to implementation will be conducted to determine locations where expansion of tourism facilities will be permitted. To accomplish this the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the tourism industry must work together to determine a mechanism that will ensure the best use of the resource while maintaining or enhancing the quality of the resource.

Where expansion may be considered on lake trout lakes it will be necessary to review policy that requires special consideration to be given to lake trout lakes. At present no development is permitted on good quality lake trout lakes, with varying degrees of development allowed on other lakes depending on their classification.

Tactic 1.c)

Permit further cottage development only within a specific area.

Cottage development will be permitted only within the primary development area described for crown land as a development tool. This will require changes to DLUG and is preferred since it is felt it will generate greater economic benefits to the local community while continuing to meet the demand for cottages. The primary issues that will be addressed when looking at cottage development in relation to fisheries will be the potential impacts on habitat and harvest.

Cottages will be considered for the following lakes that have been proposed in the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines: Zone 22-Squere, Arethuse, Barrel, Indian, Kukukus, Heathwait, and Mit Lakes and zone 23-Kin and Ken Lakes. Additional cottages may also be considered for Agimak Lake in zone 21 or for any other lake within the crown land as a development tool area. Prior to establishing cottages all forms of development in relation to their impacts on the resource and overall economic benefits generated will be reviewed.

Tactic 1.d)

Direct road access to under utilized lakes with alternative species through timber road planning.

This tactic will be implemented in zone 25 in the southern portion of the zone where roads are proposed throughout the course of the plan. As aquatic habitat inventory surveys are carried out on lakes in this area and fish species determined, alternative opportunities, such as smallmouth bass or perch, may be identified. The utilization of alternative species will be evaluated following any road access.

3.4.2 Environmental Quality

Problem 1.

Potential loss or degradation of fisheries habitat.

This problem can occur on either warmwater or coldwater lakes and must be continually addressed to ensure that habitat and subsequently fisheries populations are not

adversely affected which could result in a reduction of the allowable yield available. No specific areas have been identified as suffering a loss of habitat.

Strategy 1)

Protect or enhance aquatic habitats.

Through protection of aquatic habitats loss or degradation should be prohibited, however should something occur, regardless of the protection mechanisms, it may be necessary to enhance the habitat.

Tactic 1.a)

Continue to provide input into resource extraction and development proposals using the appropriate guidelines.

This tactic will provide protection to habitat through the application of Guidelines for Protection of Fish Habitat when activities such as timber harvesting, road construction, mining activities such as diamond drilling or cottages are proposed. This tactic will apply in any zone where such an activity is proposed. Prior to implementing this tactic further investigation of habitat on a lake by lake basis may be required to provide the necessary input.

Tactic 1.b)

Continue with an expanded Aquatic Habitat Inventory Program.

The Aquatic Habitat Inventory Program will be continued and possibly expanded to obtain basic information required in order to ensure habitat protection is provided in development proposals or other resource plans. This program involves collecting base line data not only on lakes but on rivers and streams as well. In addition to conducting Aquatic Habitat Inventory Surveys, location of spawning sites for all species of fish must be identified for most lakes and streams in the district in order to provide the necessary protection. Lakes and rivers requiring Aquatic Habitat Inventories have been identified in the Implementation Schedule.

3.4.3 Conflicts Among Users of the Fisheries Resource.

Problem 1.

Conflicts can occur between users when in actual or perceived competition for the fisheries resource.

These conflicts generally occur between three user groups, commercial fishermen, tourist outfitters and anglers, in competing for the top predator fish species. Conflicts can also occur within a user group such as resident versus non-resident anglers. It has been identified through public consultation on the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document that conflicts with commercial fishermen are minimal.

There may also be conflicts between users of the fishery resource and users of other resources. For example, in areas where timber harvesting occurs tourist outfitters may feel it impacts negatively on aesthetics which may be highly valued for their clientele.

Conflicts between users are most likely to occur in zones 21, 22 and 25 particularly with regard to remote angling opportunities since the majority of the increased road construction and timber harvesting are proposed in these zones.

Strategy 1)

Continue to minimize conflicts between users.

This strategy is designed to reduce conflicts. It is recognized that all conflicts will never be eliminated but can be minimized. Some of the preferred tactics indicated for the achievement of other strategies under other problems may also assist in accomplishing this strategy.

Tactic 1.a)

Continue to apply Timber Management Guidelines for the Protection of Tourism Values.

This tactic will continue to be implemented in all areas where timber harvesting is proposed. It will assist in minimizing conflicts between users by addressing such concerns as

access, noise control, scenic values, and other recreational uses such as canoe routes.

Tactic i.b)

Ensure all users are aware of the mechanics of the timber management planning process.

The process of timber management planning will be explained to specific user groups at annual meetings and to the general public at functions such as open houses. This will be done to ensure they are aware of the procedure for providing input to management planning and to reaffirm that their input is desireable. Whenever timber management plans are being prepared the MNR will ensure that the user groups in the area are aware so they can provide their input.

Tactic i.c)

Establish areas where remote angling opportunities will be protected and road access will be prohibited or controlled.

Remote angling areas will be established in zone 21 in the area of Bending Lake, in zone 25 in the areas of Seseganaga Lake and Shikag Lake and in zone 26 in the area north of the Sturgeon River (figure 4). Roads will not be permitted to access lakes in these areas or, if there is that possibility, use of the roads will be controlled by means of the Public Lands Act. This should assist in resolving conflicts with those anglers that desire a wilderness experience generally associated with a remote setting undisturbed by road access which tends to limit angler numbers. This does not preclude the fact that other areas contain these elements or that as roads deteriorate some areas regain this remote setting.

Guidelines for the protection of tourism values will continue to be implemented, on a case by case basis, in lakes where tourism values are identified.

This tactic, in zone 26 in the area north of the Sturgeon River, is inconsistent with the Ignace District Land Use Guidelines.

Strategy ii)

Continue to reduce and discourage the harvests of sportfish species by commercial fishermen.

This strategy will be applied to the nine commercially fished lakes. These lakes are: Sowden Lake in zone 23; Sturgeon Lake (zone 24); Barrel Lake, Basket Lake, Indian Lake, Mameigwess Lake and Paguchi Lake in zone 22; Bell Lake in zone 25 and Lake of Bays in zone 26. Sowden Lake and Barrel Lake are the only commercially fished lakes which do not contain lake trout. Minimal quotas have been established for the commercially caught sportfish species and existing totals for the nine lakes are: walleye-1,089 kg., northern pike-1,438 kg. and lake trout-719 kg.

The economic benefits of sportfish species through the provision of recreational angling opportunities is recognized. Conflicts will be minimized between anglers and commercial fishermen by continuing to implement this strategy.

Tactic ii.a)

Establish all quotas for lake trout as all commercial fisheries.

This tactic recognizes the objective for lake trout which is to maximize high quality recreational angling opportunities. The tactic will be implemented through the buy out of existing lake trout quotas. Although it is recognized that commercial fisheries may still catch the occasional lake trout, this tactic will ensure the species does not become a target. It will be necessary to develop a mechanism for the disposal of accidentally taken lake trout.

This tactic will have little impact on the majority of the commercial fisheries with the exception of Sturgeon Lake where the quota is 454 kilograms. Commercial fisheries will continue to be monitored to determine the effectiveness of this tactic.

Few comments were received from the public on this tactic when presented in the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document. Those that were received indicated a mixed reaction as to whether quotas should be lowered, left the same or increased.

Tactic ii.b)

Reduce the harvesting of other sportfish species.

Minimal quotas have been established for walleye and northern pike to assist in ensuring that these species do not become a target for the commercial fishery. When feasible quotas for these species will be further reduced. Monitoring of harvests will continue to assess the effectiveness of this tactic.

Public comments on the tactic indicated above also apply to this tactic.

Problem 2.

Demand for baitfish licences exceeds block availability.

The demand for baitfish licences exceeds the availability of baitfish blocks. There are 44 blocks in the Ignace District of which 43 are licenced. The one unlicenced block is inaccessible and has been proven to be void of good baitfish waters. There is currently a waiting list maintained in the district of individuals interested in obtaining a block should any suitable areas be available.

Strategy i)

Maintain the current baitfish licencing system.

The current system of licencing is to licence a block of area exclusively for the use of an individual licencee. This has been implemented to minimize conflicts between users since expanding the licence numbers to meet the demand could compromise this resource by increasing harvest pressure. This also provides for a certain aspect of stability for the industry.

Tactic i.a)

Allow new entrants into the baitfish industry through transfer of whole licences or blocks or when licences become available through attrition.

New entrants will be allowed to enter the industry through transfers from current licence or block holders. They will also be permitted to obtain a licence through attrition. This tactic will permit individuals to enter the industry if they desire, however, it may be necessary for them to purchase an existing business.

Tactic i.b)

Allow new entrants into the baitfish industry if a licence or portion thereof is given up or is cancelled.

New entrants will be permitted to enter the industry if an existing baitfisherman gives up a licence or a portion of a licence. This would also apply if a licence or portion thereof is cancelled due to inactivity of the licencee.

Existing baitfish licences will continue to be monitored to ensure adequate use. If a licence is not adequately utilized it will be reissued to ensure the best possible benefit to the industry.

Problem 3.

The baitfish industry is unable in some situations to satisfy specific tourist operator requirements.

This conflict occurs primarily in remote areas of the district where baitfishermen do not have retail outlets in the near vicinity of the tourist operator or in areas where baitfishermen are unable to deliver bait.

Strategy i)

Provide opportunity for tourist operator to have access to a supply of baitfish.

This strategy will overcome the problem of conflict between the two industries but must receive their cooperation. In many instances the availability of baitfish is important to tourist operator customers.

Tactic i.a)

Provide forum for communication between respective industries to work out supply problems.

This tactic would allow for the industries to work together to overcome existing supply problems. It may not be possible to implement unless there is a firm committment from both industries to participate in discussions. MNR

will initiate these meetings in order to monitor the effectiveness of the tactic.

Tactic 1.b)

Issue baitfish licence for select bodies of water when operator can demonstrate an inability to be supplied.

Select bodies of water will continue to be licenced to a tourist operator who can demonstrate an inability to be reasonably supplied. This will provide them with the capability to supply their guests if the baitfishermen cannot meet their needs. It is difficult to determine when this condition exists at times and circumstances will be monitored by the MNR.

3.4.4 Public Involvement and Fisheries Management Information

Problem 1.

There is a need to update or obtain fisheries management information to ensure that quality fisheries are maintained.

Some fisheries management information, such as harvest data, is in need of updating to provide for refinement of existing estimates. In other cases additional information may be required on specific fish populations to allow for management actions to be implemented. This problem applies to the district overall but specific management information required varies from zone to zone.

Strategy 1)

Update the fisheries information base.

This strategy is necessary for the district overall but the level of data required varies from zone to zone and in some cases from lake to lake.

Tactic 1.a)

Conduct harvest surveys in relation to specific management actions.

Specific harvest assessments would be conducted for zones 22 and 23 to determine distribution of angling pressure in relation to existing programs such as Crown Land Recreation. As well surveys would be conducted on specific lakes where an over harvest situation has been identified. This would apply to Indian Lake (Zone 22) and Sowden Lake (Zone 23) in the short term. Sturgeon Lake (zone 24) although not identified as having an over harvest situation would require specific surveys to refine the existing estimates. Other zones would be monitored to determine if specific surveys are required.

Tactic 1.b)

Conduct studies to provide for refinement of the allowable yield and productivity.

Further information is required on specific fish populations in zone 24 (Sturgeon Lake). Studies such as index netting, age and growth determination, and tagging should be conducted to provide managers with the information required to update the allowable yield estimates, thereby allowing for refinement in the estimates of available opportunities. Productivity information is also required for the southern area of zone 25 to determine opportunities available. Base line data would be obtained through the Aquatic Habitat Inventory Program.

Tactic 1.c)

Determine relationship between tourist camp occupancy rates and fisheries utilization.

Presently controls exist prohibiting further disposition of crown land within zone 24 (Sturgeon Lake) for fisheries based development. Prior to removal of this restriction or the encouraging of further development on private land it is necessary to determine the amount of pressure and opportunities existing facilities can generate within the zone.

Problem 2.

There is a lack of knowledge on certain aspects of baitfish production that would be useful to the industry and the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Information deficiencies have been identified in the following areas: factors which could influence baitfish production such as timber harvesting of shorelines, levels of

present baitfish harvest and distribution of harvesting, lakes with a potential for baitfish harvest that are not being utilized, the feasibility of techniques such as water level control or fertilization.

Strategy i)

Improve the information base on baitfish biology/ecology to assist the Ministry of Natural Resources and the industry in managing the resource.

This strategy is essential to provide for efficient management of the resource. In many cases it will require joint cooperation between the Ministry and industry.

Tactic i.a)

Provide the forum for effective communication with the baitfish industry to strengthen and improve the Ministry-industry relationship.

This tactic should assist in providing increased accuracy of harvest data and additional information on lakes fished. It will be accomplished through annual meetings with the Northwestern Ontario Baitfishermen's Association and with local bait fishermen.

Tactic i.b)

Promote/support scientific studies in relation to the effects of techniques such as timber harvesting of shorelines, water level control and fertilization.

The tactic is generally applicable to the province as a whole and therefore this district may not actually conduct the studies. Data obtained from these type of scientific studies will be available to all concerned organizations or government agencies. Pre-assessment will be required to determine where, when and what studies should be undertaken.

Tactic i.c)

Through the Aquatic Habitat Inventory Program identify lakes with baitfish potential and make the information available to the industry.

The Aquatic Habitat Inventory Program has generally directed its efforts toward the larger sportfish lakes. However through an expanded program additional lakes could be inventoried and as suitable baitfish lakes are identified, this information would be made available to the industry.

Problem 3.

There is a need to increase public involvement in fisheries management and for managers to provide increased information to users.

Public involvement in fisheries management actions must be enhanced to ensure that quality fisheries are maintained. To accomplish this managers must provide increased information to the users on the complexities of managing a fishery and how they can contribute to enhancing the quality of the fishery. Knowledge of and involvement in fisheries management actions will also ensure that the public does not lose confidence in related industries such as commercial fishing.

Strategy i)

Promote the recreational aspects of sportfishing.

This strategy is aimed at identifying to the user that a quality experience can be preferable to an experience aimed simply at quantity. Some tactics identified for accomplishing this strategy will be implemented by all districts in the Region and may even have provincial overtones.

Tactic i.a)

Enhance public education through the development of brochures, seminars and programs.

This tactic will involve presentations to user groups and development of information brochures or programs to identify for the public the benefits of a quality recreational angling opportunity. It will also include information on management actions that users can implement voluntarily such as catch and release, slot size limits, or maximum size limits. Tourist operators can perform an important role in these voluntary projects.

The tactic would be implemented through joint cooperation of all districts in the region. It also has provincial overtones and may receive provincial input, for instance in the development of brochures or education programs. The delivery of such programs however would generally remain with the district.

Tactic i.b)

Promote alternate fisheries such as smallmouth bass and whitefish on specific lakes.

Promotional campaigns will be implemented through cooperation of all districts in the Ministry of Natural Resources Northwestern Region. It also has provincial overtones and may receive provincial input for instance in the development of brochures. Individual lakes within zones which could provide an alternate fisheries at this time in this district are: Zone 21, Gulliver Lake for whitefish; Zone 23, English River for smallmouth bass; Zone 24, Sturgeon Lake for whitefish; Zone 22, English River, Barrel Lake, Indian Lake for smallmouth bass, Barrel Lake, Wintering Lake, Press Lake for whitefish; Zone 25, Bell Lake, Sesegenega Lake for whitefish; Zone 26, Lake of Beys, Penassi Lake for whitefish. Other lakes may be identified as the Aquatic Habitat Inventory Program continues.

It must be recognized that quality fishing for the alternate species identified must also be maintained over the course of time. The harvest of these species would require monitoring and should the pressure increase dramatically it may be necessary to implement a season.

Strategy ii)

Enhance public involvement in fisheries management.

This strategy will encourage the public to become more involved in fisheries management actions to develop ownership and ultimately to enhance the quality of the fisheries.

Tactic ii.a)

Encourage public involvement in fisheries habitat protection and improvement.

Brochures, seminars, and programs will be developed to inform the public on the critical types of habitat requiring protection for various species of fish. If habitat improvement is required the public will be encouraged to become involved through such programs as the Community Fisheries Involvement Program.

Strategy iii)

Ensure effective government control of the commercial fishing industry to maintain fish resources and public confidence in the industry.

The primary commercial fished species is whitefish. To maintain this resource and ensure public confidence in the industry continues effective government control must be maintained.

Tactic iii.a)

Monitor commercial harvests of fish on a regular basis through on site inspections.

Commercial harvests will continue to be monitored on the lakes to ensure that whitefish quotas are not being exceeded and to obtain information on the fish populations to ensure they remain stable.

Previous public comments on this tactic, although minimal, were in favour of this tactic.

Tactic iii.b)

Enforce restrictions imposed on commercial fishing licences including the submission of timely, accurate and complete returns.

All conditions on commercial fishing licences will continue to be enforced. The submission of accurate and complete returns which assist in monitoring harvests will continue to be actively enforced.

4.0 Implementation

4.1 GENERAL BACKGROUND

Consistent with the planning period for all strategic land use planning, this fisheries management plan provides the direction for fisheries management activities within the Ignace District to the year 2000. Throughout that period all activities should be consistent with the strategies and tactics which have been selected to achieve the stated targets and objectives.

Generally, strategies identified in this fisheries management plan will be implemented through:

- the preperation of five year implementation schedules;
- programs and projects approved and funded under the Ministry of Natural Resources work planning process;
- input to or participation in other programs carried out by the Ministry of Natural Resources;
- cooperative efforts with local organizations, associations or private interest groups;
- review and approval of work plans and proposals from industries, municipal government and other government agencies.

This section of the draft fisheries management plan will establish the first five year (1987-91) implementation schedule. Annual work plans will be developed from the priorities established in this implementation schedule. The annual work plan will address both the cost and timing for the implementation of tactics.

This schedule will be updated annually to continually provide for a 5 year operating planning framework. The implementation schedule for subsequent 5 year periods will be formally prepared in 1991 and 1996 respectively. These schedules will be subject to public notice and review and must be approved by the District Manager and Regional Director. Should any significant modifications or revisions to the implementation schedule or fisheries management plan be required, the same public review and approval process will be followed.

Projects to be undertaken during the next five year period have been identified according to those which can be completed under existing funding and those which would require additional funding. Many of these management activities under current funding levels would be completed by permanent staff supplemented by seasonal employees.

Routine planning and administrative functions have not been included. Similarly, enforcement activities are not detailed as they have been summarized in a separate enforcement plan for the Ignace District. It should be realized however that many strategies and tactics identified in this plan as well as existing fisheries legislation requires enforcement that will be carried out on an ongoing basis.

4.2 IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991

The first five year (1987-91) fisheries management implementation schedule is detailed starting on page 33.

It should be recognized that all fisheries projects are subject to and follow the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. This allows the public to participate in the planning and implementation of projects.

The project is proposed and potential impacts to the environment and their alternatives are assessed. The proposals are tabled for public response at which time the final evaluation and selection of the project, or an alternative, are made. Upon drafting a final project plan it is once again presented for public response and the details are finalized. The project is then implemented and monitored with respect to environmental quality guidelines.

As a result of complying with environmental assessment requirements there may be a change to the specific factors identified in this plan.

Generally, fisheries management programs over the next five year period will focus on pre-assessment and enhancement.

The fisheries resource will be enhanced by establishing new sanctuaries and a one fish maximum size limit to protect prime brood stock, by implementing limit changes and by

encouraging users to voluntarily participate in programs such as catch and release to reduce the overall kill of fish.

Population assessment may involve a number of different operational programs including creel census projects, index netting and spawning studies.

Aquatic habitat inventory programs (lake and stream surveys) will be continued and may be enhanced pending additional funding. These include a number of major unsurveyed rivers and numberous unsurveyed lakes.

Some lakes will continue to be stocked to provide artificial (put and take) brook trout fisheries. These lakes will be assessed to determine utilization by anglers, if natural reproduction is occurring and if it is feasible to continue their stocking.

Assessment prior to regulation changes and assessment following implementation of regulations will be conducted to determine effectiveness.

Fisheries habitat will be maintained by continuing to provide input into resource extraction and development proposals.

Projects which relate to specific management tactics that are not identified in the first (1987-91) implementation schedule will be identified in subsequent implementation schedules.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991, IGNACE DISTRICT

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVELS OF FUNDING.		
STRATEGY: Reduce the harvest of walleye to below the allowable yield level:		Walleye Over Harvest
TACTICS: •Pre-assessment of harvest using existing staff to determine number of walleye over 50 cm. taken by anglers.	-District wide, all zones	
•Implement a possession limit of one walleye over 50 cm (19.5 in.) in size.	-District wide, all zones	
•Pre-assessment of harvest using existing staff to determine number of northern pike over 70 cm. taken by anglers.	-District wide, all zones	
•Implement a possession limit of one northern pike over 70 cm. (27.5 inches) in size.	-District wide, all zones	
•Pre-assessment of harvest by existing staff to determine number of walleye taken by anglers from these spawning locations between season openiny and June 15.	-Megikons River (Sowden Lake, zone 23) -Talking Falls (English River, zone 23) -Camp Creek (Indian Lake, zone 22) -Little Indian Bridge (Indian Lake, zone 22) -Barnard Creek (Fourbay Lake, zone 26)	
•Establish new sanctuaries for the period April 15 to June 15 on walleye spawning locations.	-Megikons River (Sowden Lake, zone 23) -Talking Falls (English River, zone 23) -Camp Creek (Indian Lake, zone 22) -Little Indian Bridge (Indian Lake, zone 22) -Barnard Creek (Fourbay Lake, zone 26)	
•Permit increased road access.	-Zone 22 -Zone 25	
•Using existing staff monitor number of non-resident anglers based outside of Ontario using area on a day use basis to to determine if angler validation tag system for non-residents should be implemented.	-Zone 21	

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991, IGNACE DISTRICT

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVELS OF FUNDING.		
STRATEGY: Reduce the harvest of walleye to below the allowable yield level:		Walleye Over Harvest
TACTICS: •Implement no camping zone for non-residents.	-Zone 22	
•Assessment by existing staff to determine what slot size should be protected prior to implementing experimental slot size technique for walleye.	-Sowden Lake, zone 23	
STRATEGY: Reduce the harvest of lake trout.		Harvest of Lake Trout Exceeds the Allowable Yield for the District
TACTICS: •Assess using existing staff numbers of non-resident lake trout anglers not accommodated at tourist operations.	-All zones	
•Non-resident lake trout anglers, excluding property owners to be accommodated at tourist operations.	-All zones	
•Pre-assessment to determine number of lake trout anglers and numbers of lake trout in daily catch using existing staff.	-All zones	
•Reduce catch and possession limit to two lake trout for non-residents and residents.	-All zones	
•Determine number and size of lake trout taken by anglers between Sept. 15 and Sept. 30 using existing staff.	-All zones	
STRATEGY: Direct additional angling opportunities to specific zones.		Plannning for Additional Opportunities.
TACTICS: •Pre-assessment through existing Aquatic Habitat Inventories to determine lakes with alternative species	-Zone 25, southern portion	
•Direct road access to lakes with alternative species through timber road planning.	-Zone 25, southern portion	

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991, IGNACE DISTRICT

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVELS OF FUNDING.		
STRATEGY: Protect or enhance aquatic habitats.		Potential Loss or Degradation of Habitat
TACTICS: •Conduct Aquatic Habitat Inventory Surveys.	-Lake WE67-50 (zone21) -Lake WE67-55 (zone 21) -Even Lake (zone 25) -Lake XE79-55 (zone 25) -Lake XE79-11 (zone 25) -Crowfoot Lake (zone 25) -Grid Lake (zone 25) -Lake XF51-32 (zone 25) -Lake WE68-20 (zone 21) -Desent Lake (zone 25) -Ruxton Lake (zone 25) -Sahara Lake (zone 26) -Lake XF60-40 (zone 25) -Lake WE68-21 (zone 21) -Lake WE68-17 (zone 21) -Lake WE68-18 (zone 21) -Lake WE67-65 (zone 21) -Lake WE67-23 (zone 21) -Lake WE67-37 (zone 21) -Lake WE67-39 (zone 21) -Lake WE67-24 (zone 21) -Pipio Lake (zone 25) -Mattie Lake (zone 25) -Conver Lake (zone 26) -Lake WE67-63 (zone 21) -Lake WE67-64 (zone 21) -Lake WE67-60 (zone 21) -Lake WE67-41 (zone 21) -Lake WE56-23 (zone 21) -Lake WE56-16 (zone 21) -Lake WE56-14 (zone 21) -Lake WE56-54 (zone 21) -Lake WF61-03 (zone 22) -Lake WE79-01 (zone 22) -Lake XF51-01 (zone 25) -Willet Lake (zone 25) -St. Mary Lake (zone 25) -Lake WE79-03 (zone 22) -Lake WE79-29 (zone 22) -Lake WE79-17 (zone 22) -Lake WE79-19 (zone 22) -Lake WE79-20 (zone 22) -Lake WF70-07 (zone 22) -Lake WF60-41 (zone 22) -Squeak Lake (zone 22) -Watson Lake (zone 22) -Bing Lake (zone 25)	

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991, IGNACE DISTRICT

STRATEGY/TACTICS		LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVELS OF FUNDING.			
STRATEGY: Protect or enhance aquatic habitats.			Potential Loss or Degradation of Habitat
TACTICS:	•Conduct Aquatic Habitat Inventory Surveys.	-Add Lake (zone 25) -Lake XF62-26 (zone 25) -Lake WF71-17 (zone 22) -Lake WF71-15 (zone 22) -Lake WF71-13 (zone 22) -Lake WF51-06 (zone 22) -Lake WF91-09 (zone 22) -Dome Lake (zone 22) -Hamilton Lake (zone 23) -Wynd Lake (zone 23) -Lake XE48-21 (zone 23) -Fowler Lake (zone 26) -Miners Lake (zone 26) -Die Lake (zone 26)	
	•Provide input into resource extraction and development proposals.	-All zones	
STRATEGY: Minimize conflicts between users.			Conflicts Between Users In Competition for Limited Fisheries Resources
TACTICS:	•Apply timber management guidelines for protection of tourism values.	-Ongoing, all zones	
	•Ensure all users are aware of timber management planning process.	-General nature, all zones	
	•Establish remote angling opportunity areas.	-Bending Lake area (zone 21) -Seseganaga Lake area (zone 25) -Shikeg Lake area (zone 25) -North of the Sturgeon River (zone 26)	
STRATEGY: Reduce/discourage commercial harvest of sportfish.			Conflicts Between Users In Competition for Limited Fisheries Resources
TACTICS:	•Continue to establish minimal quotas for sportfish species.	-All commercial fisheries	
STRATEGY: Provide opportunity for tourist operator to have supply of baitfish.			Baitfish Industry Unable to Meet Tourist Operator Requirements
TACTICS:	•Provide forum for industries to work out supply problems.	-General nature, all zones	

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991, IGNACE DISTRICT

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVELS OF FUNDING.		
STRATEGY: Improve information base on baitfish.		Lack of Knowledge on Baitfish Production
TACTICS: •Provide forum for communication between industry and Ministry.	-General nature, all zones	
•Support baitfish studies, determine feasibility of conducting studies.	-General nature, all zones	
STRATEGY: Ensure effective control of commercial fishing to maintain resource and public confidence.		Public Involvement in Fisheries Management
TACTICS: •Monitor commercial harvests of all species using existing staff.	-All commercial fisheries	
•Continue to enforce licence restrictions.	-All commercial fisheries	

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991, IGNACE DISTRICT

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
(B) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING.		
STRATEGY: Direct angling opportunities to specific zones.		Planning for Additional Opportunities
TACTICS: •Pre-assessment to determine locations for expansion of tourism facilities.	-Zone 22 -Zone 25 -Zone 26	
•Permit expansion of tourism facilities in specific locations.	-Zone 22 -Zone 25 -Zone 26	
•Permit cottage development on a case by case basis. Lakes identified to be considered following assessment.	-Agimak Lake (Zone 21) -Square Lake (Zone 22) -Arethusa Lake (Zone 22) -Barrel Lake (Zone 22) -Indian Lake (Zone 22) -Kukukus Lake (Zone 22) -Heathwait Lake (Zone 22) -Mit Lake (Zone 22) -Kin Lake (Zone 23) -Ken Lake (Zone 23)	

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991, IGNACE DISTRICT

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
(B) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING.		
STRATEGY: Direct angling opportunities to specific zones.		Planning for Additional Opportunities
TACTICS: •Identify appropriate new tourism opportunities that could be developed in conjunction with Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. (ie: boat caches, main base lodges, outposts)	-Zone 22 -Zone 24 -Zone 25 -Zone 26	
•Develop system for allocating potential tourism opportunities in conjunction with Ministry of Tourism and Recreation.	-Zone 22 -Zone 25 -Zone 26	
STRATEGY: Update the fisheries information base.		Need to Update Fisheries Information to Ensure Maintanence of Quality Fisheries
TACTICS: •Conduct harvest surveys in relation to specific management actions.	-Sturgeon Lake (zone 24)	
•Conduct studies to provide for refinement of allowable yield.	-Sturgeon Lake (zone 24)	
•Determine relationship between tourist camp occupancy rates and fisheries utilization.	-Sturgeon Lake (zone 24)	
STRATEGY: Increase the district production of walleye.		Walleye Over Harvest
TACTICS: •Assessment of lakes to determine suitability for adult walleye transfers.	-Hyndman Lake (zone 22) -Lake WE85-25 (zone 21) -Lake WE88-04 (zone 22) -Lake WE88-25 (zone 22) -Heronry Lake (zone 23) -Girvin Lake (zone 23) -Lake WE86-53 (zone 21) -Owl Lake (zone 21) -Phyllis Lake (zone 21) -Lake WE55-19 (zone 21) -Lake WE57-20 (zone 21) -Lake WE65-39 (zone 21) -Lake WE65-33 (zone 21) -Lake WE67-10 (zone 21) -Lake WE75-06 (zone 21) -Lake WE85-22 (zone 21) -Lake WE85-24 (zone 21) -Lake WE86-08 (zone21) -Lake WE86-09 (zone 21)	

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991, IGNACE DISTRICT

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
(B) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING.		
STRATEGY: Reduce harvests of sportfish species by commercial fishermen.		Conflicts Between Users in Competition for Limited Fisheries Resources
TACTICS: •Establish nil quotas for lake trout on commercial fisheries through buy outs.	-Sturgeon Lake (zone 24) -Indian Lake (zone 22) -Mameigwess Lake (zone 22) -Paguchi Lake (zone 22) -Bell Lake (zone 25) -Lake of Bays (zone 26) -Basket Lake (zone 22)	
STRATEGY: Enhance public involvement in fisheries management.		Need to Increase Public Involvement in Fisheries Management
TACTICS: •Encourage public involvement in habitat protection and improvement.	-All zones	
STRATEGY: Protect or enhance aquatic habitats.		Potential Loss or Degradation of Habitat
TACTICS: •Expand Aquatic Habitat Inventory Surveys.	-Lake XE48-20 (zone 23) -Lake XE48-19 (zone 23) -Lake XE48-24 (zone 23) -Lake XE48-26 (zone 23) -Lake XE48-25 (zone 23) -Lake XE49-34 (zone 23) -Lake XE49-46 (zone 23) -Lake XE49-21 (zone 23) -Fisher Lake (zone 23) -Canoe Lake (zone 26) -Dizzy Lake (zone 26) -Lake XF55-16 (zone 26) -Ken Lake (zone 23) -South Lake (zone 23) -Grim Lake (zone 23) -Portage Lake (zone 21) -Lake XF56-29 (zone 26) -Lake XF60-32 (zone25) -Lake XF60-28 (zone 25) -Lake XF60-25 (zone 25) -Lake XE69-29 (zone 25) -Cola Lake (zone 25) -Goshen Lake (zone 25) -Jackpine Lake (zone 25) -Tri Lake (zone 25) -Lake XF50-21 (zone 25) -Lake XF50-30 (zone 25) -Lake XF50-33 (zone 25) -Lake XF50-37 (zone 25) -Chapelle Lake (zone 25)	

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE, 1987-1991, IGNACE DISTRICT

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
(B) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING.		
STRATEGY: Protect or enhance aquatic habitats.		Potential Loss or Degradation of Habitat
TACTICS: •Expand Aquatic Habitat Inventory Surveys.	-Hearst Lake (zone 25) -Lake YF16-10 (zone 25) -Lake YF06-07 (zone 25) -McEwen Lake (zone 25) -Lake YF16-19 (zone 25) -North Rocker Lake (zone 25) -London Lake (zone 26) -Paris Lake (zone 26) -Kathleen Lake (zone 21) -Lake WE56-17 (zone 21) -Lake WE56-20 (zone 21) -Lake WE56-24 (zone 21) -Lake WE95-41 (zone 21) -Paguchi Lake (zone 22) -Sixmile Lake (zone 26) -Handcuff Lake (zone 26) -Jumping Lake (zone 26) -Valora Lake (zone 25) -Wellington Lake (zone 25) -Richan Lake (zone 25) -Beckington Lake (zone 25) -Allard Lake (zone 25) -Jackpot Lake (zone 25) -Jigger Lake (zone 25) -Cobb Lake (zone 26) -McKee Lake (zone 26) -Corsica Lake (zone 26) -Lake XF33-18 (zone 26) -Lake XF54-20 (zone 26) -Yon Lake (zone 26)	

APPENDIX 1: CLASSIFICATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SUMMARY DOCUMENT BY AFFILIATION AND SUBJECT

SUBJECT	TOURIST OUTFITTER	BAIT FISHERMAN	COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN	ASSOC./ ORGANIZ.	CLUB	GOVERN. AGENCY	RESIDENT ONTARIO	NON-RES ONTARIO	TOTAL
PLANNING PROCESS	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
DETAILED BACKGROUND REPORT	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4
FISHERIES RESOURCES	4	-	3	-	-	-	1	1	9
RESOURCE USERS	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	6
CURRENT AND PROJECTED RESOURCE USE	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
TARGET TESTING	3	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	9
PROBLEMS AND ISSUES	37	7	6	2	1	1	33	4	91
OPTIONAL MANAGEMENT STATEGIES	9	1	1	1	-	-	12	-	24
OPTIONAL MANAGEMENT TACTICS	197	55	29	17	7	6	190	15	516
PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ZONES	28	10	6	1	2	-	28	4	79
PUBLIC REVIEW	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	4
OTHER	2	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	9
TOTALS	284	76	50	22	11	7	279	25	754

NUMBER OF QUESTIONNAIRES DISTRIBUTED- 160
NUMBER OF QUESTIONNAIRES RETURNED- 50
PERCENT OF QUESTIONNAIRES RETURNED- 31.2%

APPENDIX 2: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE IGNACE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

EXISTING IGNACE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES		CHANGES PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANNING	
ITEM	GUIDELINE	PROPOSED CHANGE	DISCUSSION
Sportfish Objective	To meet the demand for sportfishing consistent with the limits of an optimum sustainable yield.	To provide for optimum social and economic benefits derived through sportfish while maintaining self-sustaining populations.	Although the objective is very similar in each instance the proposed change is recognizing the social and economic benefits of sportfish while indicating that each species must be able to maintain itself. It also recognizes that existing demand for fish flesh may not be met and anglers may have to lower their expectations.
Sportfish Target	The district's capability to produce sportfish or the angler demand based on a satisfaction level of two kilograms of sportfish per angler day, whichever is the least.	Maintain the harvest below the allowable yield of 369,700 kilograms per year while meeting the demand for opportunities of 178,000 angler days.	The proposed change recognizes that to maintain quality the harvest must not exceed the allowable yield and that this can be accomplished without limiting opportunities.
Lake Trout Objective	To provide for the maintenance, protection, and enhancement of lake trout populations, and to provide recreational angling opportunities to the general public for this species, based on an optimum sustainable yield.	To maximize high quality recreational angling opportunities while maintaining self-sustaining populations.	These objectives are very similar since to provide high quality opportunities and self-sustaining populations all of the components of the DLUG objective must be met. However high quality is the key since the DLUG components can be met without ensuring high quality opportunities. The proposed change was made taking into consideration the lake trout's sensitivity and unique biological characteristics.

APPENDIX 2: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE IGNACE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

	EXISTING IGNACE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES	CHANGES PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANNING	
ITEM	GUIDELINE	PROPOSED CHANGE	DISCUSSION
Lake Trout Target	To produce 20,000 to 55,000 kg. of lake trout per year consistent with a sustainable yield of 0.25 to 0.75 kg. of lake trout per hectare.	Maintain the harvest below the allowable yield of 40,100 kg. per year while meeting the demand for opportunities of 20,000 angler days.	This change is a result of refinement of data which now permits the establishment of a single figure for the district rather than a range. It also recognizes that the demand for opportunities can be met but must be done so within the context of a high quality angling experience. It also recognizes that allowing the maximum harvest of lake trout may not provide maximum economic and social benefits.
Commercial Fish Objective	To encourage the harvest of commercial fish when it is biologically and economically feasible.	To maintain a viable industry by encouraging the harvest of commercial fish, under the quota management system, where it is biologically, economically and socially acceptable.	The DLUG objective is related to all commercial fish species including bait fish. The fisheries management objective is aimed only at the commercial food fish industry. The change recognizes the need for controls in the way of quotas and that the harvest must be acceptable rather than just feasible.
Commercial Fish Target	To increase the commercial fish harvest to 65,000 kg. per year.	To sustain an annual harvest of 41,600 kg. per year of whitefish.	The DLUG target is the quota which was in place for all species of fish. The new target is for the principally caught species of whitefish and considers that sportfish species should not be a target and harvest must be within annual allowable yields.

APPENDIX 2: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE IRIANCE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

EXISTING IRIANCE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES		CHANGES PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANNING	
ITEM	GUIDELINE	PROPOSED CHANGE	DISCUSSION
Commercial Baitfish Objective	No objective established.	To provide for the harvest of baitfish for use by the sport fishery recognizing the overall social and economic benefits primarily generated through the maintenance of a viable baitfish industry.	This establishes a target specifically for baitfish in DLUG where one did not exist. It recognizes that baitfish is for use by the sport fishery but that any social and economic benefits are generated primarily through a viable baitfish industry.
Commercial Baitfish Target	To meet the demand to the year 2000 of 105,000 dozen.	To provide 108,600 dozen baitfish by the year 2000.	This change will still meet the demand and is a result of refinement of data to more accurately reflect what the demand will be.
Land Use Activity Area No. 3, Roads	No additional access will be permitted.	Permit increased road access.	Increased road access will be permitted to generate more angling options and spread out pressure. This would be allowed primarily to small, presently unaccessible warm-water lakes. Further data is necessary prior to specifying individual lakes. This would apply in fisheries management zone 22.
Land Use Activity Area No. 3, Roads.	No additional access will be permitted.	Any road planning in the area of Bending Lake will aim for the protection of existing remote tourism values.	Bending Lake falls within fisheries management zone 21. Bending Lake is being considered for a remote angling zone and if the above change is made this change will be required.

APPENDIX 2: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE IGNACE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

EXISTING IGNACE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES		CHANGES PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANNING	
ITEM	GUIDELINE	PROPOSED CHANGE	DISCUSSION
Land Use Activity Area No.4, Cottaging	Cottage development on patent land will be discouraged. No additional cottaging permitted on crown land.	Consider cottages on Agimak Lake.	Agimak Lake presently has a number of cottages on it and may have the potential for additional capacity. This may be preferable and more economically viable than establishing cottages on other lakes.
Land Use Activity Area No. 5, Tourism	Consider development of tourism facilities on Willow Narrows Lake, Wabuska Lake and Hook Lake.	Consider development of tourism facilities on Hook Lake and Kukukus Lake. Do not consider Willow Narrows or Wabuska Lakes.	Hook and Kukukus Lakes are within the Fisheries Management Zone No. 22 and once fisheries management tactics have been implemented within that zone may have the potential for increased tourism based on the fisheries potential. Willow Narrows and Wabuska Lakes are within the Fisheries Management Zone No. 23 and are not considered to have potential for tourism based on the fisheries resource.
Land Use Activity Area No. 6, Cottaging	Additional cottages to be considered for Encamp and Kathleen Lakes.	No additional cottages within this area to be considered.	Cottage development within the district will be considered only within DLUG area 5 and Agimak Lake. This area is being assessed in terms of crown land as a development tool and has the greatest potential to generate additional economic benefits.
Land Use Activity Area No. 8, Cottaging	Remote cottages to be considered on Berge, Clew and Telephone Lakes.	No additional cottages within this area to be considered.	Same discussion as Land Use Activity Area No. 6, Cottaging.

APPENDIX 2: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE IGNACE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

EXISTING IGNACE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES		CHANGES PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANNING	
ITEM	GUIDELINE	PROPOSED CHANGE	DISCUSSION
Land Use Activity Area No. 9, Tourism	Existing development is acceptable however, no expension of lodges or outposts will be permitted on Crown land.	Consider expension of lodges or outposts.	Following the identification of new tourism opportunities and the development of a system for allocating these opportunities in conjunction with the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation, it may be feasible to permit expension of lodges or outposts in this area.
Land Use Activity Area No. 10, Cottaging	Additional cottages to be considered on Eady, Wintering, Malta and Barnard Lakes.	No additional cottages within this area to be considered.	Same discussion as Land Use Activity Area No. 6, Cottaging.
Land Use Activity Area No. 10, Roads	Roads are acceptable.	Roads acceptable, however any road planning in the area north of the Sturgeon River will aim for protection of tourism values.	No new roads are proposed in this area over the course of the next 15 years, however should changes occur the area indicated should be protected for remote angling possibilities. The area north of the Sturgeon River falls in fisheries management zone 26 and based on the fisheries resource may provide remote angling opportunities.
Land Use Activity Area No. 11, Cottaging	Cottages to be considered on Wabezikeskwi and Press Lakes.	No additional cottages within this area to be considered.	Same discussion as Land Use Activity Area No. 6, Cottaging.
Land Use Activity Area No. 12, Tourism	No disposition of crown land for tourism.	Consider area for disposition of crown land for tourism.	DLUG area 12 falls within fisheries management zone 25. Based on the fisheries resource some of the water-bodies within DLUG area 12 may have the potential for increased tourism uses.

APPENDIX 3: JURISDICTION RESPONSIBLE FOR LAKES STRADDLING IGNACE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARY

LAKE NAME*	RESPONSIBLE JURISDICTION	LAKE NAME*	RESPONSIBLE JURISDICTION
Moberly Lake	Ignace District	Beak Lake	Ignace District
Campus Lake	Ignace District	Dibble Lake	Ignace District
East Campus Lake	Ignace District	Gulliver Lake	Ignace District
Islet Lake	Ignace District	Lake of Bays	Ignace District
Beck Lake	Ignace District	Cloven Lake	Ignace District
Hut Lake	Ignace District	Kawawaogame Lake	Ignace District
Kukukus Lake	Ignace District	Press Lake	Ignace District
Selwyn Lake	Ignace District	Nare Lake	Ignace District
Little Metionga Lake	Thunder Bay District	Melgund Lake	Dryden District
Hermon Lake	Thunder Bay District	Kaikawabik Lake	Sioux Lookout District
Stormy Lake	Dryden District	Elsie Lake	Atikokan District
Kawashegamuk Lake	Dryden District	Mennin Lake	Dryden District
White Otter Lake	Atikokan District	Button Lake	Ignace District
WF50-43	Dryden District	XF83-23	Ignace District
XF93-17	Thunder Bay District	WE56-23	Ignace District
Duggan Lake	Ignace District	WE56-56	Dryden District
XF93-13	Thunder Bay District	WE55-12	Ignace District
YF04-04	Ignace District	WE65-08	Atikokan District
YF04-10	Ignace District	WE65-68	Atikokan District
YF04-08	Thunder Bay District	XE05-66	Ignace District
YF14-20	Thunder Bay District	XE05-63	Ignace District
YF14-19	Ignace District	XE15-38	Ignace District
YF14-02	Thunder Bay District	Grummet Lake	Ignace District

*A mercator grid number has been used for unnamed lakes to facilitate their identification.

APPENDIX 3: JURISDICTION RESPONSIBLE FOR LAKES STRADDLING IGNACE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARY

LAKE NAME*	RESPONSIBLE JURISDICTION	LAKE NAME*	RESPONSIBLE JURISDICTION
Chappyle Lake	Nipigon District	Kathleen Lake	Ignace District
YF16-20	Nipigon District	Adele Lake	Atikokan District
Cameo Lake	Sioux Lookout District	Portage Lake	Ignace District
Kangaroo Lake	Sioux Lookout District	Lower Scotch Lake	Ignace District
Heathcote Lake	Sioux Lookout District	Rye Lake	Ignace District
Ken Lake	Ignace District	Umber Lake	Thunder Bay District
XF25-08	Ignace District	XE47-39	Thunder Bay District
Nak Lake	Sioux Lookout District	XE47-47	Ignace District
Allen Water Lake	Ignace District	Clay Lake	Ignace District
Morn Lake	Thunder Bay District	Rush Lake	Ignace District
Haze Lake	Thunder Bay District	Kus Lake	Ignace District
Rumbo Lake	Thunder Bay District	XF01-05	Sioux Lookout District
Pipio Lake	Ignace District	WF81-05	Ignace District
Chickadee Lake	Thunder Bay District	Meeter Lake	Sioux Lookout District
XF71-51	Ignace District	WF81-15	Sioux Lookout District
Redwing Lake	Ignace District	Amik Lake	Sioux Lookout District
XF72-65	Ignace District	XF72-40	Thunder Bay District
XF72-56	Ignace District	XF72-42	Ignace District

*A mercator grid number has been used for unnamed lakes to facilitate their identification.

APPENDIX 4: GLOSSARY

Allowable Yield
The maximum harvest allowed over a long period of time. It may be expressed in terms of total fish harvest (a number of different species) or harvest by individual species.

Angler day
While it is usually accepted that any amount of effort in a day constitutes one angler-day, for the purposes of converting angler hours to angler-days, 4 hours will be used.

Aquatic Habitat Inventory
A basic study of a lake or river to determine species present, water chemistry, depth, water volume and other characteristics. The information obtained can be used to determine the potential and allowable yields of a lake.

Baitfish
Any species of the minnow family (except carp and goldfish), the mudminnow family, the sucker family, the stickleback family, the trout-perch family, the sculpin family, the lake herring and the darter subfamily.

Boat Cache
Generally a form of tourist operation which consists of one or more boats established on the shore of a lake for a period of time and used in the tourism business.

Coldwater Lakes
Those lakes having characteristics which would support Salmonids such as lake trout or brook trout. Usually are relatively deep, clearwater lakes.

Coldwater Streams
Those streams having characteristics which would support Salmonids such as brook trout. The water is generally clear and cold.

Commercial Fish
Any fish other than atlantic salmon, aurora trout, brook trout, brown trout, largemouth bass, muskellunge, rainbow trout and smallmouth bass.

Creel Survey (Census)
A survey of anglers to determine angler origin, species of fish caught, weights of fish and number of hours fished. Other information such as gear being used and information on the age of fish may also be collected.

Critical Fish Habitat
Any fish habitat required for the maintenance of a healthy fish population or otherwise identified as essential to the achievement of the Ministry's fishery program objectives.

Crown Land Recreation Program
An initiative implemented in 1984 within the Northwestern Administrative Region. The intent of this initiative was to encourage non-Ontario based non-residents to use existing tourist facilities and thereby contribute to local and provincial economies through use of Ontario's fishery resources and to generate revenue from non-resident use of crown land. In addition, this program involves the designation of areas closed to non-resident camping to redistribute use from sensitive fisheries.

DLUG
Short form for District Land Use Guidelines. See Ignace District Land Use Guidelines.

Goal
A general purpose to which the ministry aspires.

Harvest
Fish taken and kept by resource users.

Ignace District Land Use Guidelines
A document that identifies land and water areas where various Ministry of Natural Resources programs will be carried out over a long term to the year 2000. Detailed management guidelines are provided for each of these areas. It is the guiding document for the development of individual resource management plans, such as the Fisheries Management Plan. Resource management plans must be consistent with the policies and intent stated in this overall guiding document.

Management
The judicious use of means to achieve ends. Management may have various levels of intensity. For example, if a high degree of technology is used, or if very careful tending is given, the management is high level.

Non-Resident
An angler whose principle residence is outside of Ontario.

North or (Northern) Ontario
Northwestern and Northeastern planning regions include the following districts: Dryden, Fort Frances, Ignace, Kenora, Red Lake, Sioux Lookout, Atikokan, Geraldton, Nipigon, Terrace Bay, Thunder Bay, Blind River, Espanola, North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, Temagami, Wawa, Chapleau, Cochrane, Gogama, Hearst, Kapuskasing, Kirkland Lake, Moosonee, and Timmins.

Objective
A quantifiable and attainable end, which the ministry's efforts are intended to accomplish.

Opportunity
A measure of recreation supply which is used to describe the number of times a resource or facility can be used in a given time period. An opportunity is considered not to be greater than one day.

Outpost
A form of tourist operation consisting usually of housekeeping accommodations located primarily in remote areas with limited access.

Over Harvesting
Harvests of fish by users which exceed the annual allowable yield.

Planning Area
The area for which a planning process is carried out, and for which a resource management plan is prepared.

Policy
The decision concerning the objectives to be achieved and the means of achieving them. For resource management planning, we are mainly concerned with the objectives, targets, strategies and tactics.

Resident
An angler whose principle residence is in Ontario. A local resident would be one who can fish an area on a day use basis, i.e. travel to the area, fish, and return home on the same day.

Resource Management
The wise use of a particular resource, such as fish, to achieve a specific end.

Sportfish
Any fish that are legally caught by angling and for the purposes of this document include walleye, northern pike, lake trout, whitefish, yellow perch, smallmouth bass and brook trout.

Strategy
Planned actions or measures to achieve a desired end.

Tactic
A method devised to achieve one or more strategies.

Target
A quantified end to be achieved or completed by a specific date.

Tourism
The business of attracting visitors and catering to their needs and expectations. Visitors are travellers who will return home after their visit and who may return to pay another visit.

Tourist Operation
An establishment or facility which consists of any one or a combination of any of the following: cabin establishment, camping establishment, cottage establishment, hotel, motel, motor hotel, outpost establishment, resort, houseboat operation or boat cache and is generally in the tourism business. (Tourist or tourism operator or outfitter have corresponding meanings).

Underproducing Waters
Waters from which the production is constrained because of stresses such as water quality, species composition, over harvest, undesirable species.

Warmwater Lakes
Those lakes other than coldwater lakes.

Warmwater Streams
Those streams other than coldwater streams.

Work Plan
A plan prepared annually which defines what management activities are to be undertaken for that year.